



Photo by Karl Weisel

**Last  
chance  
for  
summer  
travel**



**Step back in time with a visit to Hessenpark in the nearby Taunus Mountains. See stories throughout this issue for more end-of-summer travel ideas. Fly to Malta, go cave hunting north of Wiesbaden, head to France, St. Petersburg or just take a day exploring the Rhein River Valley around Rudesheim.**

## Security

### Army altering garrison gate services in Europe

U.S. Army garrisons in Germany, Italy and Belgium are altering services at their gates this month.

U.S. Army Europe and Installation Management Command Europe officials have developed a plan to adjust contract guard manpower to meet current Department of the Army standards, said Tom Blackwell of USA-REUR's Office of the Provost Marshal.

The plan is a workable method to maintain services and provide security within budget limits, said Blackwell. As USAREUR continues its transformation, all parties will refine the plan and adjust work hours as necessary. He stressed that the changes will not degrade installation security and said any future changes will be managed to ensure a consistent level of protection.

Provost Marshal officials said the changes may create delays for some drivers entering Army installations in theater during high-traffic periods. They said commanders may use other workforce to reduce the problem or consider adjusting work hours to reduce congestion.

To help ease waiting times, OPM has authorized a "trusted traveler program" to expedite access for Department of Defense ID cardhold-

ers entering installation gates.

"The trusted traveler program allows a car with several DoD ID cardholders access to post by only scanning one ID card," said Blackwell. "The holder of the ID card will be asked to vouch for the remaining ID cardholders in the vehicle."

He added that most vehicles enter installations occupied by a single person and suggested that carpooling could help ease the volume of traffic at installation gates.

Blackwell also recommended that those with unregistered ID cards register them now at their local Installation Access Control office in compliance with Army in Europe Regulation 190-16 (Installation Access Control).

"People approaching the gates with unregistered ID cards significantly increase customer wait times, especially during high-traffic periods," Blackwell said. "When a gate guard checks a driver's or pedestrian's identification, the process takes less than 15 seconds," he said. "To manually look up an unregistered or forgotten ID card can take up to three minutes, pulling guards away from the lane and holding up traffic." (Courtesy of USAREUR and IMCOM Europe Public Affairs)

## Inside



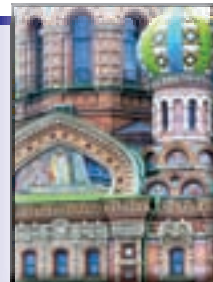
### Reader feedback

"I'd like to go to Italy and France and would love to go to Greece," said Capt. Evette Soto in this week's feedback. See page 2 for more.



### Rhein Valley

Pick up a Ring Ticket in Rudesheim for a unique way to explore the area. See page 16.



### St. Petersburg

Russian city is a treasure trove of art, ballet and history. See page 6.



## Feedback: What do you recommend seeing while in Europe?



**Melanie Kennedy**  
3rd Battalion, 4th Infantry  
Regiment Family member

"We just went to the North Sea and that is my recommendation. It has a very healthy climate that's good for the skin. My kids love it. ... It's flat so you can walk a lot. You can even walk into the sea at low tide."



**Sgt. Berlyn De Vera**  
2nd Signal Brigade

"I've been to most of the European countries, but Germany is great for sightseeing. Berlin is really nice. Checkpoint Charlie is a good place to go."



**Sgt. David Lewis**  
V Corps

"I'd like to take more trips to Sweden or Norway or Denmark. I would like to fly instead of riding with the bus. Eight to 10 hours can be strenuous."



**Ryan Peralta**  
American Red Cross

"I would like to visit Rome because of all the history and the cool architecture."



**Mark White**  
AAFES employee

"I recommend Venice. It's one of the few places in Europe that looks like it did 500 years ago. There's lots of history there. Marco Polo, Galileo — they all set foot there."

## Staying safe on vacation

**By Jennifer Piver-Renna**

*U.S. Army Public Health Command (Provisional)*

Nothing defines the summer season better than the ultimate vacation. When the children are out of school and the weather is warm, airports and highways are packed with travelers eager to reach destinations more exciting, fun or relaxing.

Preparing for a vacation requires planning. We put a lot of thought into where we'd like to go, how we'll get there and where we'll stay. In the midst of making those preparations, remember to plan for your safety as well. While vacations are meant to relieve stress, they often include traveling to unfamiliar locations and situations which can place you at greater risk of injury, illness or crime.

To help make your next vacation worry-free, follow these simple travel tips:

Tell a trusted friend. Make

sure someone knows where you are going, the route you plan to take and when you plan to arrive and return. Give that person the phone number of the place where you are staying and your cell phone number to be contacted in case of an emergency.

Route it out. Know before you leave the route you plan to take. Make an itinerary and include contact information for the airline and rental car company. If you're driving, identify safe places to stop for a meal or to stretch your legs about every two hours.

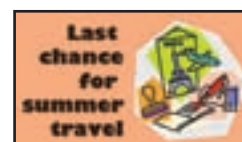
Action plan for emergencies. Pack a basic first aid kit and copies of important paperwork, especially for international travel. If you're traveling with children, make sure they know what to do if they become lost or separated from you.

Vigilance is key. Educate yourself on the area before you

head out to explore. Always stay alert and aware of your surroundings.

Exercise caution when discussing vacation plans. You may be making polite conversation when you talk to neighbors or coworkers or post on social networking sites about your vacation plans, but remember you are also advertising that you won't be home for a specific length of time.

Lock it up. Keep your valuables safe by locking up your house and leaving the key with



a friend, not under a doormat. When you arrive at your hotel, ensure the door to your room

can be adequately secured. Do not leave valuables in plain sight in your rental car.

For more information on safe summer travel visit [www.ustravel.org/sites/default/files/page/2009/11/USTravelAnswerSheet.pdf](http://www.ustravel.org/sites/default/files/page/2009/11/USTravelAnswerSheet.pdf).

## Learning the value of hard work

**Commentary by Melissa Connor and Victoria Myers**  
*Special to the Herald Union*

As we look back at our Summer Hire experience, we realize our jobs exceeded our expectations. They were not the boring jobs we thought; instead they were lively and fun.

Our colleagues are extremely nice and made our workplace a comfortable working environment. Our supervisors gave us work to keep us busy during the long workday. They encouraged us to take as many breaks as needed. In addition, they were always there when we had questions.

As the weeks passed by, we got to know the

true meaning of work. We discovered there are no shortcuts in life and working hard is required. Our jobs gave us valuable working experience as well as the money that can be used for future needs.

However, Summer Hire was not all about work and money. If a good impression was made on the supervisor then those who are in need could request a recommendation for college.

While some might expect a summer job to be boring and a waste of time — it turned out to be exactly the opposite — fun and exciting. *(Melissa Connor will be a senior and Victoria Myers a freshman at Wiesbaden High School when school starts this month.)*

## Recognizing value of breastfeeding

**By Dennise Hebron**  
*Baumholder Women, Infants and Children Overseas*

World Breastfeeding Week is celebrated every year from Aug. 1-7 in more than 120 countries to encourage breastfeeding and improve the health of babies around the world.

Breastfeeding is the best way to provide newborns with the nutrients they need. There is no formula that can duplicate the unique properties of breast milk. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one of the most highly effective preventive measures

a mother can take to protect the health of her infant and herself is to breastfeed.

Benefits of breastfeeding for babies include: ☺ Breast milk is easier to digest. ☺ It is always available and at the

**See Breastfeeding on page 3**

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## News flash

### Over and above

Three members of the U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden military family were recognized for outstanding achievements. **Christine Jones**, with the garrison's Directorate of Human Resources, was awarded the Army's 2011 Director's Army Substance Abuse Program Employee Assistance Coordinator of the Year Award. **Master Sgt. Mark Jordan**, former Equal Opportunity adviser for the garrison and currently serving as the senior EO adviser for the European Command, received the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Roy Wilkins Renowned Service Award. During Jordan's tenure with the garrison he was instrumental in promoting diversity and organizing numerous special events, including a visit by civil rights pioneer Reverend Jesse Jackson. **Charles Fitchett**, a human resources assistant with USAG Wiesbaden's Military Personnel Division (DHR), received the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service from Col. James Zellmer, commander of the 66th Military Intelligence Brigade, for his outstanding support of 66th MI Soldiers.

### TKS tax relief

As of this month TKS now offers Value Added Tax Relief for its telephone and Internet services. All U.S. Department of Defense personnel, or ID cardholders who normally qualify for German VAT exemption, can now save 19 percent on their monthly TKS bills. To apply for VAT relief, TKS customers should bring a VAT form to their local TKSShop and the VAT exemption will be applied to the next billing cycle. It is recommended to submit more than one VAT form at a time to cover several billing periods (one form per month). They must be received before the first of the month to cover that month. Currently no other German carrier has the required authorization from the German and U.S. tax authorities to offer VAT relief to their customers. For more information about the TKS VAT relief program visit your local VAT Office, TKSShop or [www.tkscable.com/vatfree.aspx](http://www.tkscable.com/vatfree.aspx). (TKS Information)

### Antiterrorism tip

August is Antiterrorism Awareness Month. Before traveling, check the U.S. State Department website at [state.gov](http://state.gov) for information on possible threats at your destination. Also, always dress to blend in with the locals — avoid wearing slogans, T-shirts or clothing that immediately identifies you as an American. Visit [www.eur.army.mil/vigilance](http://www.eur.army.mil/vigilance) for additional antiterrorism information and resources. Remember — vigilance begins with you.

### COLA rate rises

The Cost of Living Allowance rate increased in July for some Army in Europe Soldiers as a result of the U.S. dollar's depreciation against most European currencies. The COLA rate for July, set by the Department of Defense, resulted in some service members experiencing a two point increase based on their locality. Visit [www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/colaCalc.cfm](http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/colaCalc.cfm) to see the Soldier COLA rates. (USAREUR Public Affairs)



Michael Davenport waits to take the first piece of cake as Irma Sneed cuts it in celebration of Army Community Service's 46th birthday July 22 at the facility in Hainerberg Housing.

## ACS celebrates 46 years of service

Story and photo by Chrystal Smith  
U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Public Affairs Office

Since its beginning in 1965, one Army organization has grown to meet the needs of more than those for which it was founded.

Army Community Service celebrated its 46th birthday July 22 and now rejoices in the glow of offering relevant services and programs to Soldiers, civilian employees and their Families to meet a diversity of needs.

"Back in '65, ACS was there to support Families. Since then the goals have expanded and become a little more complex," said Jan Meert, U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden ACS director, noting that a number of new services have been introduced. These include, among others, the Soldier and Family Assistance Center and Survivor Outreach Services — programs that address the unique needs of warriors in transition and survivors of Soldiers who died during active military service.

ACS offers programs that address, but are not limited to, financial issues, varied Family concerns, new parent support, special Soldier issues, and employment and relocation assistance.

"We offer a plethora of services to meet the needs of the military community," said Meert, who has been employed with the ACS organization for five years. "Initially ACS was started to assist the Army Family. Now the organization has an extension of services that help all members in the military community to include Soldiers, Families, civilians and retirees."

In that time the director has seen the organization evolve and expand to offer programs that are appropriate to the changing needs of the military community.

"Constant deployments and family separations ... there is a lot of stress on Families," said Meert. "We are offering more services to help people be resilient with all these changes going on with Families."

While the lending closet service and Army Emergency Relief program are in a peak season, the director reemphasized that the organization has a vast offering of services and programs to meet the needs of anyone in the military community.

"Remember we're here for everyone," said Meert.

Visit ACS in Hainerberg Housing, Building 7790, or call mil 335-5234 or civ (0611) 4080-234 to learn more about services and programs offered.

## Breastfeeding .....

Continued from page 2

right temperature. ☺ It has all the nutrients, calories and fluids your baby needs to be healthy for at least the first six months of life. ☺ Enhances brain and nervous system development. ☺ Contains antibodies which formulas do not and cannot have, protecting your baby from many diseases and infections such as ear infections, diarrhea, pneumonia, asthma and meningitis. ☺ Research also suggests that breastfeeding protects against obesity, diabetes, sudden infant death syndrome and some cancers.

Benefits of breastfeeding for mothers include: ☺ Increased bonding with baby. ☺ Returns uterus to pre-pregnancy size more quickly. ☺ Burns more calorie, which may help in regaining pre-pregnancy weight more quickly. ☺ Reduces the risk of ovarian and breast cancer. ☺ Keeps bones strong, which helps protect against osteoporosis. ☺ Additionally, breast milk is free.

The World Health Organization recommends

exclusive breastfeeding until a baby is six months old and continued breastfeeding with the addition of nutritious complementary foods for up to two years or as long as is mutually desired.

Breastfeeding goes smoothly from the start for some mothers, while others need a little time and practice. This is perfectly normal.

There are several resources available if you need help. Ask the doctors and nurses while you are still in the hospital, your pediatrician, a lactation specialist, WIC Overseas or a breastfeeding support group. There are also several helpful websites available such as [www.llli.org](http://www.llli.org) and [www.medelabreastfeedingus.com](http://www.medelabreastfeedingus.com).

There is a basics breastfeeding class available at Baumholder's WIC Overseas office, led by Bridget Thomason. The office also provides breastfeeding support. It is located in Building 8746 and is open Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call mil 485-8001.



## From the blotter

Compiled by the U.S. Army Garrison  
Wiesbaden Directorate of Emergency Services

### June 24

**Wiesbaden:** A Soldier is being charged with a traffic accident after striking another vehicle.

### June 25

**Baumholder:** A noncommissioned officer is being charged with aggravated sexual assault after caressing a victim's body against her will.

### June 26

**Baumholder:** A Soldier is being charged with being drunk and disorderly after punching a government vehicle twice with a closed fist.

**Wiesbaden:** An Army and Air Force Exchange Service employee is being charged with a traffic accident after striking another vehicle.

### June 27

**Wiesbaden:** A Soldier is being charged for being involved in a traffic accident and not reporting the incident.

### June 28

**Baumholder:** An NCO is being charged with a traffic accident after losing control of a vehicle and striking a road marker owned by the host nation.

**Wiesbaden:** A DoD employee is being charged with fleeing the scene of a traffic accident after striking another vehicle and leaving.

### June 29

**Wiesbaden:** A Soldier is being charged with failure to pay a debt after taking a cab and leaving the cab without making proper payment.

### June 30

**Baumholder:** An AAFES employee is being charged with larceny after removing cash from the register over a 30-month period.

**Wiesbaden:** A Soldier is being charged with attempting to distribute illegal drugs to a CID agent.

### July 1

**Wiesbaden:** A Family member is being charged with shoplifting after concealing several items and leaving a facility without proper payment.

### July 2

**Baumholder:** Two Family members were charged with larceny after attempting to enter a movie theater without paying.

### July 3

**Baumholder:** An AAFES employee is being charged with a traffic accident after striking a cement post.

**Wiesbaden:** A Family member is being charged with a traffic accident after striking a vehicle.

### July 4

**Baumholder:** An NCO is being charged with a traffic accident after striking another vehicle.

**Wiesbaden:** A Department of Defense Dependents Schools employee is being charged with a traffic accident after striking another vehicle.

### July 5

**Baumholder:** A Soldier is being charged with drunk and disorderly conduct after playing loud music during quiet hours and throwing things out of a window.

**Wiesbaden:** An NCO is being charged with drunken driving after driving off the road and through a fence, while intoxicated.



Photo by Chrystal Smith

## Checking out the latest technology

Fairgoers learn about some of the newest emerging technologies at Wiesbaden's Technology Expo July 22 at the Wiesbaden Fitness Center. More than 50 companies displayed samples of various technologies ranging from physical security to data encryption, smart systems and more.

## Vigilance stressed during awareness month

For the second year, the Army has designated August as Anti-terrorism Awareness Month. Garrison anti-terrorism officers intend to use the opportunity to train, educate and increase overall awareness.

Force Protection officials will focus their efforts on heightening awareness and vigilance in order to protect the military communities from acts of terrorism. The Department of the Army AT Awareness Month themes are:

- Recognizing and Reporting Suspicious Activity and High Risk Behavior
- Active Shooter Response Procedures
- Application of Anti-terrorism Doctrinal Principles
- Integrating Anti-terrorism into the Operations Process

The goal is for all Soldiers, civilians and Family members to understand the concepts, principles, roles, responsibilities and suspicious activity reporting procedures.

Last year the Army introduced the iWATCH program during Anti-terrorism Awareness Month.

The purpose of the program is to get the word out to Soldiers, families, and civilian employees about how they can help prevent terrorism and protect the community.

Extremist ideologies and terrorism continue to threaten the Army and the nation. The culture of the Army must evolve in order to recognize that the threat may come from within our own perimeter. If someone says something or does something that can be described as suspicious, it is your duty to report that activity. You are the first line of defense against terrorism.

Community members must understand the terrorist threat, take actions to detect and deter terrorists, and report all suspicious activities.

To learn more about iWATCH contact your garrison anti-terrorism officer or check out the U.S. Army Europe iWATCH page at [www.eur.army.mil/vigilance/iWATCH.htm](http://www.eur.army.mil/vigilance/iWATCH.htm). (Courtesy of Installation Management Command Europe Public Affairs)

## Field cooking

Boy Scouts from Troop 107 compete in a Dutch oven dessert contest. Congratulations to the Flaming Arrows patrol for their cheesecake. For more information about Scouting opportunities visit [www.wiesbaden107.mytroop.us](http://www.wiesbaden107.mytroop.us) or email [kravensbergen@yahoo.com](mailto:kravensbergen@yahoo.com).

Photo by Karen Ravensbergen





## News flash

### Pre-retirement seminars

Department of Defense civilian employees who are within three to five years of retirement eligibility may wish to attend a pre-retirement seminar to learn more about their benefits and how the system works. The one-day sessions will be offered Aug. 10 and 11 for employees under the FERS retirement program and Aug. 12 for CSRS employees in the Installation Management Command Training Center in Schwetzingen. Classes are limited to 30 with priority going to U.S. Army Europe employees. Enroll through the CHRTAS website. Call Don Parker at mil 483-5843 for more information.

### Army Career Tracker

The Army Career Tracker is a leadership development and career management tool that continues to be fielded to Soldiers, officers and civilians in phases, based on their career management fields, throughout the remainder of 2011. The ACT integrates training, assignment history and education into one personalized, easy-to-use portal. The tracker can also be used to search for multiple Army education and training resources, monitor career development and history, and receive personalized advice from leadership. The ACT allows Soldiers, officers and civilians to manage their career objectives and monitor their progress toward career requirements and goals. The ACT release schedule is available on the Army Knowledge Online website at [www.us.army.mil/suite/page/659786](http://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/659786). (USAREUR Public Affairs)



### Airfield Exhibit

Col. Jeffrey Dill, U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden commander, presents Wiesbaden Lord Mayor Dr. Helmut Müller with a model plane at the opening of a special "Time Travel" photo exhibition at the Wiesbaden Dining Facility July 29. The exhibit, which captures 100 years of airfield history from its early use as a horse track to its present service as home to the USAG Wiesbaden and eventually U.S. Army Europe, will be on display through the end of August. It originally appeared in Wiesbaden City Hall.

Photo by Glenn Anderson

## Pentagon addresses energy challenges

By Sgt. 1st Class Tyrone C. Marshall Jr.

American Forces Press Service

Reducing demand, finding alternative energy sources and improving the energy security of military operations are among the goals of the Defense Department's operational energy strategy, according to a senior Pentagon official.

Sharon E. Burke, assistant secretary of defense for operational energy plans and programs, described the strategy during an Army and Air Force energy forum.

"[The strategy is] going to guide the entire department in how we use energy for military operations," Burke said. "It's the framework for moving forward with our energy challenges." Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta has warned of a changing security environment and its effects on operational energy demand, she noted.

"Improving our energies could not only improve our military effectiveness and our ability to operate in the world, but it is also important to our readiness," Burke said. "Secretary Panetta, in his short time in office, has already cautioned us all that we need to have humility in predicting the shape or direction of future conflicts. ... So energy is a part of that changing security environment, but it's also part of that adaptation, and how we better prepare for this changing

world and the possibility of strategic surprise."

Burke told the audience that changing the way the Defense Department uses energy at home and abroad is strategically significant.

"In today's operations, we haul fuel and other supplies across very challenging circumstances in Afghanistan, across difficult terrain and dangerous roads," she said. "At home, our critical infrastructure, which sustains military operations abroad, depends on the civilian electric grid. ... The more that we can lighten that dependence — whether on the grid, or [by] our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines overseas — the more resilient we are to that changing strategic landscape."

Burke also emphasized the need for a responsible reduction in government spending, and the role the Defense Department's operational energy strategy plays in that effort.

"Managing our military under these circumstances will be a challenge for all defense policy makers," she continued, "and our challenge is to adjust to our fiscal circumstances and sustain our military effectiveness today and far into the future."

Budget considerations should not dictate strategic priorities, Burke said. "But we will need to be realistic with how we execute that strategy with fewer resources," she added.

That's where the operational energy strategy unveiled last month by Deputy Defense Secretary William J. Lynn III has an especially important role, Burke said.

For example, she said, an experimental site on Fort Devens, Mass., is testing a camp kit that incorporates advances in power generation and distribution, insulated shelters, water re-use systems and waste management.

In addition, Burke said, the Air Force's Air Mobility Command is making innovative process changes ranging from reducing aircraft weight to more efficient routing, to better cargo loading. "That's expected to save over a half-billion dollars over the next five years," she added.

"These programs are tests, [but] we have more to do," Burke said. "We need operational energy incorporated into our readiness training, but this is really important to be able

to take this out to the field and show that it can work. And that it can give us better military effectiveness on the ground with our soldiers.

"And the services aren't waiting to do this — they're doing [it]," she added.

The strategy will not end or fade away with the return of U.S. troops from Iraq and Afghanistan, Burke said.

"This is, fundamentally, a readiness challenge," she said. "We always need to be ready to conduct missions wherever we are, and that means we have to be ready whether we have forces in the field or not. If we're successful at looking at it that way, ... we'll have a military that's better able to respond to any challenge or any threat anywhere in the world."

Ultimately, Burke said, she hopes the changes brought forth by the new operational energy strategy will improve the nation's overall energy readiness.

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## Exploring St. Petersburg: art, cuisine and culture

Story and photos by  
**Anemone Rueger**  
U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden  
Public Affairs Office

There are many ways to get to Russia's former waterfront capital.

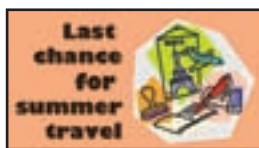
But however you get there make your way to St. Petersburg.

The famous Nevsky Prospekt or boulevard is the place for a couple of overnight stays. Several hotel chains such as Rinaldi operate rooms on individual floors of ordinary turn-of-the-century houses that shouldn't break the bank. The countless beautiful facades on the avenue and its side streets remind visitors of the former glory of the 300-year-old city built by Czar Peter the Great, on the banks of the mighty Neva River.

Start a new day by taking a pick of the many inviting cafes, such as the Boulangerie Fran-

caise at Nevsky No. 103, advertising the pastry heaven in French and Russian letters. This is good preparation for a long day at the world's most famous art museum, the Hermitage.

At every step, one is reminded of the role Russia played in the world and its influence on art just a hundred years ago. Treasures of many nations are stacked there; an implication that Ekaterina the Great loved shopping for art. Only 10 percent of the works of the Hermitage are on display in the 400-room museum. Spending just two minutes at each painting, one would need eight years to see them all. It's a museum of superlatives. One doesn't know where to direct the camera first at the paintings or the intricate floor or the splendid ceiling or the heavy chande-

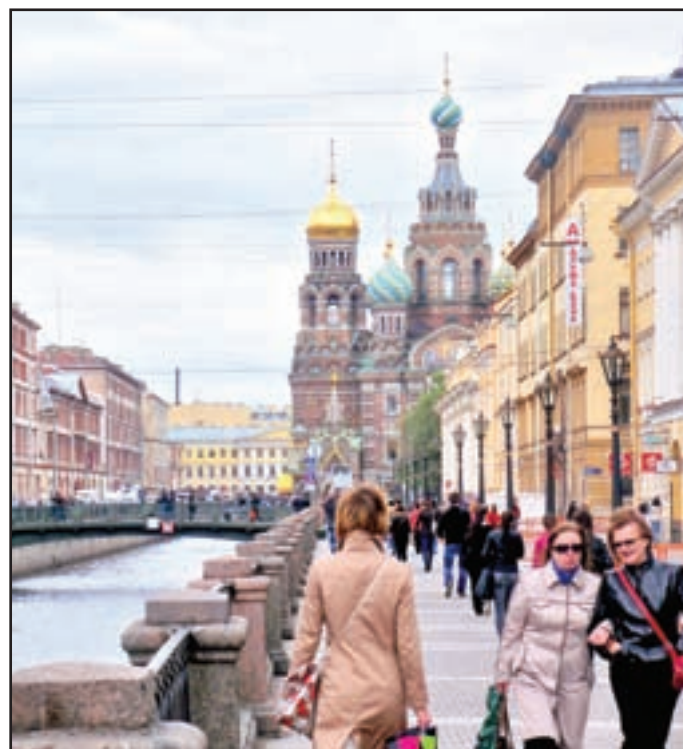


lier. Much of the world's beauty and riches seem to be concentrated there in one build-

ing, the Winter Palace. It holds everything from the masters of the Middle Ages to the Impressionists, wine coolers and sleighs to watches and incredible furniture and Czar Nicholas II's library, to the throne room and the golden reception hall.

Once the feet start hurting, it's time for some Russian bliny, pelmeny and borshch at perhaps the Korchma at No. 40, Nekrasova St.

Getting back to the hotel any time expect winter, the traveler may feel pulled back onto the streets by the late night sunshine for another walk along the Neva River, past some reminders of Soviet times and many testaments to world-renowned ar-



chitects before that time, past palaces, gardens and countless world famous stores.

For day two it is recommended to pull out a pocket guide and follow one of the side-street city walks. For instance starting back at the Hermitage square — easily reachable by the city's very affordable trolley bus line — drift along the canal to the Neva River banks, along another canal through the diplomats' quarter, past the czar's stables, make another turn and straight ahead is the Cathedral of the Spilled Blood. It was built on the square where Czar Alexander II, who abolished serfdom in the empire in 1861, was attacked and killed in 1881. It's a church like a castle from a Russian fairytale. To get to the cathedral, one passes countless *matroushkas*, Russian fur hats, T-shirts, St. Petersburg cups and more.

All around the church, one finds commemoration plaques describing every major event the next czar chose to commemorate. Walking past the first Mutual Credit Bank in Art Nouveau style, one eventually arrives at the Singer cafe.

To be understood by locals, ask for the *Zzzzinger* — apparently the Russian pronunciation of the famous sewing machine manufacturer, who opened a branch in St. Petersburg in 1905 and built an Art-Nouveau



**Photo above: Pedestrians walk along the Neva River with a view of the Church of Spilled Blood. Photo below: Russian dolls are an example of some things one would see in the street markets.**

representational building for the company on Nevsky Prospekt. It is just around the corner from the Hermitage. The building today hosts an extremely tempting bookstore with a large selection of high-quality print products and a cafe with an impressive view of the Kazan Cathedral across Nevsky Prospekt, blackened by the centuries.

The list of unique things to do in St. Petersburg goes on and on: Watch Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake at the Marinsky Theater, climb St. Isaac's Cathedral for a breathtaking city view, take a boat tour. And before you go back, eat another genuine Borshch, just to remember the taste of Russia.

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## Garrison stands down for safety



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Baumholder firefighters, Christian Mailänder and Stephan Steuer, demonstrate the use of the "jaws of life" during Baumholder's safety stand down day.

**By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava**

*U.S. Army Garrison Baumholder Public Affairs Office*

Employees of the U.S. Army Garrison Baumholder stood down for two days to reflect on safety. In all, the USAG Baumholder Safety Office conducted four sessions for German and American employees focusing on safety in the workplace and at home.

As part of the annual refresher, the USAG Baumholder fire department, the 92nd MP Military Working Dog section, the German Red Cross and the German Polizei all conducted demonstrations after each session.

Members of the fire department demonstrated how they rescue people trapped in a vehicle by tearing the side of a vehicle apart with the "jaws of life." They also conducted a demonstration on how to handle a grease fire in the home.

A member of the German Red Cross participated alongside the fire department and explained how both agencies work together during emergency situations.

Using special goggles and plastic balls, Guyla Stevens from the Baumholder Polizei station demonstrated to volunteers the effects of drinking and driving. Volunteers attempted to juggle the balls while wearing the goggles that distorted their eyesight to simulate intoxication.

Also participating in the safety stand down day were members of the 92nd Military Police and their military working dogs. The MPs and their working dogs demonstrated techniques such as stand off, escort and attack.

Inside the Wagon Wheel Theater, firefighters discussed firefighting issues in detail, such as what to do when a fire occurs in the home and how to handle a grease fire. Properly responding to a fire was also addressed such as closing all windows and moving around on your hands and knees in a smoke-filled room.

Safety in the work environment, both in the shop and in the office, was also addressed.



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Spc. Dori Chan, 92nd Military Police Company, instructs her military working dog to attack Sgt. Jeffery Pearlstein, also of the 92nd MP Company, during a demonstration on safety stand down day.



By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Guyla Stevens from Baumholder's polizei station and several garrison employees observe as Dominic Mutinda, chief of the Environmental Office, tests the effect of drunk driving simulation goggles on his reflexes.



## Rededicate yourself to iWATCH

**By Felix R. Purvis**  
*U.S. Army Garrison Baumholder  
Antiterrorism Awareness Officer*

Terrorism is an enduring, persistent, worldwide threat to U.S. Army Garrison Baumholder's Soldiers, civilians and Family members as well as Soldiers and Family members in the United States, other overseas locations and deployed environments. Team USAG Baumholder must seek to understand the threat, detect terrorist activities, warn and defend against the full range of terrorist tactics.

This goal is directly related to iWATCH, a community program initiated a year ago that seeks to involve everyone in the vigilance of his and her community.

For this reason Baumholder's theme for August Antiterrorism Awareness Month is Rededicate Yourself to iWATCH.

Antiterrorism is the defensive element in the fight

against terrorists. The Army's senior leaders have proclaimed August 2011 as the Army's AT Awareness Month. This is of special significance as we approach the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks on New York City and the Pentagon and with the recent killing of Osama Bin Laden. Enhancing our Soldiers, civilians, and Family members' understanding of the nature of terrorism and the potential for retaliatory terrorist attacks on Army installations, stand-alone facilities and units is critical to our defense.

This year the USAG Baumholder Antiterrorism Branch will conduct AT awareness activities that support the Army's AT awareness themes of recognizing and reporting suspicious activity and indicators of high risk behavior, active shooter response procedures (community response), integrating AT into the operations process, and application of AT doctrinal principles. These

themes are intended to help focus and guide team USAG Baumholder's AT program on high payoff activities that directly support the fight against terrorism. We must remember that every person is a sentry.

To support the previous themes the USAG Baumholder AT Branch will conduct radio interviews, publish information in the *Herald Union*, Command Information Channel, provide AT awareness information at selected locations around the installation that will be announced at a later date and provide AT level one briefings upon request.

The end state is for all Soldiers, leaders, civilians and Family members to understand the key AT concepts, principles, roles, responsibilities and suspicious activity reporting procedures and at the same time ensuring our military, civilian and host nation partnerships in the fight against terrorism continue to strengthen.

## Golf staff aims to please

**By Amy Danzeiser**  
*Arts and Crafts Center*

Can you name a great way to get outside and have fun on a warm summer's day? How about golf? With the help of the Family, Morale Welfare and Recreation golf course in Baumholder, you can soak up the sunny weather with a golf club in your hand and your friends by your side at Baumholder's Rolling Hills Golf Course.

Make sure to stop by the Pro Shop and check out their equipment and clothing. The Pro Shop has a selection of brand-name clubs, bags, shoes, gloves, balls and apparel. If the thought of picking out an appropriate club is intimidating, a friendly and knowledgeable staff member is available to help you. If they do not have what you need, they will be willing to custom order it for you.

Getting started correctly will make the experience more enjoyable. If you're just learning to play or looking to improve your game, you'll want to check out the driving range. They offer a covered area to protect you from the rain or sun and a fence located at the back of the range that challenges you to overshoot the 250-yard marker. The driving range is one of the best in U.S. Army Europe. It includes 20 hitting stations — 10 indoor and 10 outdoors. The indoor stations are covered by a wooden shelter and contain two professional teaching booths, wall-mounted heaters, ball machine room and a restroom. The range has stadium style lighting for late-night practice.

Instructions are available for all ages, child to adult, men and ladies. Individual, group, and package deals are available. For more information call the golf course at mil 485-7299.



### Outdoor Recreation/Rod & Gun Club

Bldg. 8167 Smith Barracks, Baumholder, Mon-Tues 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Closed Wednesdays, Fri-Sun. 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

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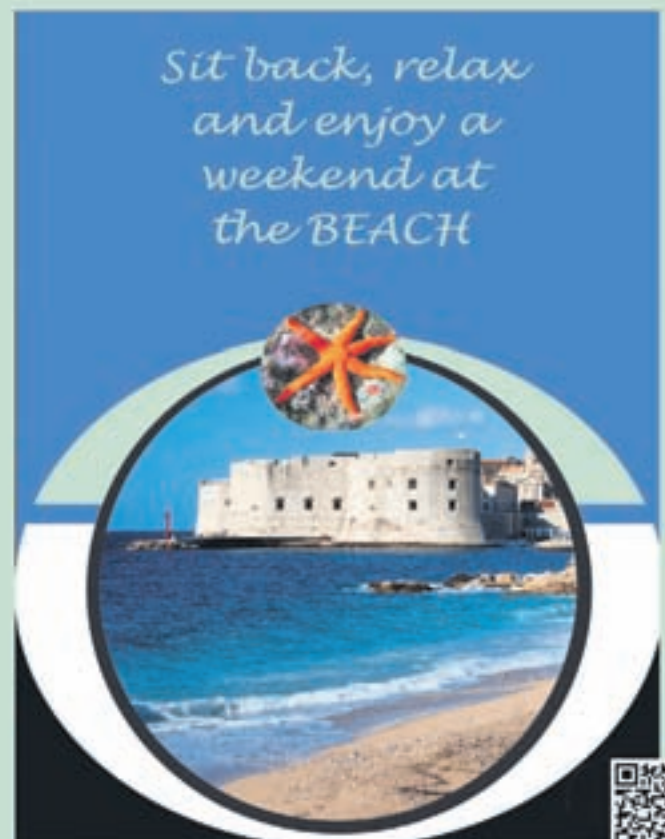
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Bus transportation is also an option.





## FMWR roundup ... FMWR roundup

### Operation Rising Star

Show the world what you can do. Win valuable prizes and the chance to compete in the Army-wide Operation Rising Star. Auditions are Sept. 19 beginning at 7 p.m. at the Hilltop Theater. The first round is at 7 p.m. Sept. 21 and finals are at 7 p.m. Sept. 23 at the Rheinlander Club. The contest is open to all active duty members and their spouses. Be sure to bring a CD of your music to the auditions.

For more information contact the Hilltop Theater at mil 485-7244 or email [hilltoptheater@eur.army.mil](mailto:hilltoptheater@eur.army.mil).

### Rolling Hills Golf Course lineup

Rolling Hills Golf Course events for August and September include:

Preis des Praesidenten, Aug. 14 at 9 a.m., Stableford play.

American Club Championship, Aug. 20-21 at 9 a.m. each day, stroke play for Americans only.

Clubmeisterschaften (German club championship), Sept. 3 and 4 at 9 a.m., stroke play open to German club members only.

Rolling Hills Ryder Cup, Sept. 10 at 9 a.m., various formats, by invitation only.

Herbstpreis tournament, Sept. 18 at 9 a.m., Stableford format, everyone is welcome.

Erntedank tournament, Oct. 2, at 9 a.m., Stableford format, everyone is welcome.

Fall Scramble, Oct. 15, at 9 a.m., two person scramble, everyone is welcome.

A monthly children's clinic will be held Aug. 6,

Sept. 24 and Oct. 8. Instruction is from 10 a.m. to noon and the cost is \$5.

A Thursday night scramble is held every Thursday at 6 p.m. The cost is \$15 per person.

For more information call the Rolling Hills Golf Course at mil 485-7299.

### Sign up, learn a new skill

There are many different classes to choose from at the Creative Arts Center such as painting for beginners, beading, youth craft classes, decoupage, knitting and crochet. Find them online for dates and times by going to [www.facebook.com/baumholderartscrafts](http://www.facebook.com/baumholderartscrafts), [www.baumholderartsandcrafts.wordpress.com](http://www.baumholderartsandcrafts.wordpress.com) or email [artscenter@eur.army.mil](mailto:artscenter@eur.army.mil). For more information call Amy Danzeiser at civ (06783) 6-6687 or mil 485-6687.

### Library events for August

August programs and events at the library include: Tuesdays, children's story time, all ages, 3:30 p.m.

Tuesdays, library resources for homework help, all ages, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesdays, Anime Knock Out Club, ages 18 plus, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesdays, book a librarian, all ages, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Thursdays, children's story time, all ages, 10:30 a.m.

Saturdays, family fun, all ages, noon to 3 p.m.

Foreign film discussions, Aug. 7 and May 14 from noon to 2 p.m.

Coupon swap, Aug. 21 at 2 p.m.

Lunch and learn, Aug. 15 at 12 p.m., adult conver-

sations on various topics of interest.

### Remembrance Day run

A 9-11 Remembrance Day 5K run is scheduled for Sept. 10 at the Hall of Champions starting at 9 a.m. Categories include adults and youths 17 and under. Awards include a first place Commander's "rock" and second and third place medallions. No registration is required and the event is free. A keepsake T-shirt can be purchased at the Mountaineer Fitness Center for \$5.

### FRG flag football

Family Readiness Group flag football league team registration is Aug. 23 to Sept. 2.

League play begins at 6 p.m. Sept. 12 at Soldier Field. League play is open to adults 18 years and up. This is an opportunity for community members to participate in an organized league and interact with other community stairwell organizers. Registration and participation is free. Sign up at the Hall of Champions Aug. 22 to Sept. 2.

### Breast cancer run

A breast cancer awareness five-kilometer run will be held Oct. 15 starting at 9 a.m. at the Hall of Champions. Categories include adults and youths 17 and under. Awards include a first place Commander's "rock" and second and third place medallions. No registration is required and the event is free. A keepsake T-shirt is available at the Mountaineer Fitness Center for \$5.

## Outside the gate ... Outside the gate ... Outside the gate

### Aug. 5-7

Eleventh International Competition of Street Magicians, St. Wendel, pedestrian zone, details at: [www.stras-senzauberei.de](http://www.stras-senzauberei.de)

### Aug. 6

Caribbean night in Idar, Brasserie at Schleiferplatz

### Aug. 6-7

Gem cutter and goldsmith market, Oberstein, pedestrian zone

Shops open on Sunday in Oberstein

### Aug. 6

Flea Market in Homburg/Saar, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Aug. 12-14

Hot-air balloon meeting at Bostalsee, balloons fly from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. during dry weather

### Aug. 12-15

Kirn city fair, fest ground Auf Kyrau, lots of rides for children, follow signs to Auf Kyrau

### Aug. 13

Open air concert, Burg Lichtenberg, in Thallichtenberg, entrance fee

### Aug. 13

Boxing competition in Idar, Bras-

serie am Schleiferplatz, entrance fee

### Aug. 19-21

Powwow fest at Bostalsee, entrance fee

### Aug. 19-21

Old City Fest in downtown Baumholder

ADAC Car Rally World Championship in Trier; the rally takes place on Baumholder's Military Training Area Aug. 20

### Aug. 27-28

Handicraft and hobby artist market in St. Wendel, pedestrian zone

### Sept. 2-4

Little Woodstock festival at Bostalsee, entrance fee

### Sept. 2-6

Prämienmarkt in Birkenfeld

### Sept. 2-6

Kusel fall fair, lots of rides for children and big market, shops open on Sunday

### Sept. 3

Flea market in Metz, France, 7 a.m. to noon

### Sept. 5

Market in Kirn, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### Sept. 10-11

Schinderhannes Räuberfest in Herrstein (Schinderhannes was a legendary highway man)

### Sept. 11

Farmer's and hobby artist Market in Berglangenbach

### Sept. 15-17

21st International Jazz Days in St. Wendel, Saalbau; entrance fee, details at: [www.wndjazz.de](http://www.wndjazz.de)

### Sept. 17-18

European farmer's market in Ohmbach

### Sept. 17-19

Baumholder City Fair (A market is held Sept. 19 at Kennedyallee.)

### Sept. 25

Mountain bike tour in Heimbach, Sportplatz

### Sept. 25

Opening of the new community center, Baumholder Protestant church Oct. 1

Flea Market in Homburg/Saar, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Oct. 1-2

Medieval fest and copper melting at the copper mine in Fischbach

### Oct. 9

Hobby artist and farmer's market in Kirn, shops are open on Sunday

### Oct. 9

City Fest in Birkenfeld, shops are open on Sunday

### Oct. 10

Market in Kirn, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### Oct. 16

Shops open in Idar-Oberstein

### Oct. 22-30

Wendels Fair in St. Wendel, shops are open on Sunday, Oct. 23

### Oct. 25

Wendels Market in St. Wendel, pedestrian zone

### Oct. 31

Halloween children's party, St. Wendel, Saalbau, 5 p.m.

### Oct. 31

Halloween Disco in Oberkirchen, Festhalle





## Go Green introduced to garrison

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

U.S. Army Garrison Baumholder  
Public Affairs Office

Turning trash into cash and preserving the environment is what garrison leaders are shooting for with the new Baumholder Go-Green program. This was the leading topic at the U.S. Army Garrison Baumholder personnel assembly July 2.

The push to go green can put €229,000 Euro into the garrison's coffers annually if the program reaches its goal of recycling 40 percent of all waste material. More specifically, €120,000 can be saved by recycling aluminum cans, €15,000 by recycling glass and €94,000 can be saved by recycling paper and cardboard properly.

Baumholder's Environmental Office together with the garrison's Plans, Analysis and Integration Office came up with a novel way to present the Go Green program to garrison employees. Instead of simply talking about recycling, large dumpsters were placed on stage. On cue, members of the Environmental Office popped out of the dumpsters holding large signs that showed how much could be saved by recycling glass, cans and paper.

The push to recycle will reach out to all offices, barracks and homes in the community. Large bins, clearly labeled for paper and cardboard, glass and cans, are being placed throughout the community. The paper containers have blue lids, glass containers have red lids and the bins for recycling cans have yellow lids. The containers with black lids are for residual trash only.

Most people have been exposed to recycling aluminum cans, paper and cardboard and glass at some point. The question begs to be asked though why is Baumholder not recycling plastic? Simply put, the German community incinerates all residual trash, and when plastic is mixed in with residual trash it burns more intense. But all is not wasted. This incineration process is captured to create new energy. Of course, plastic containers that



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

**Timo Klipstein pops out of a dumpster and shouts out how much money can be saved by recycling glass while Arjun Thiru holds the dumpster lid open with one hand and a microphone in the other. At right, Ulrich Ditmar displays a shield depicting how much can be saved by recycling cans. Ewa Kondek assisted by jumping out of a dumpster with a sign showing the savings when recycling paper and cardboard. All work for the environmental office.**

carry a deposit are recycled by the German community.

Also part of the assembly was the introduction of new USAG Baumholder Command Sgt. Maj. Augustus N. Wah by Lt. Col. Sam McAadoo, USAG Baumholder commander. After the introduction McAadoo took

the time to recognize a number of garrison employees and Soldiers by presenting them with garrison coins and certificates for their assistance during the garrison's recent Fourth of July celebration.

The assembly closed with McAadoo responding to ques-

tions from the audience which ranged from personal questions to what is the status of skate park and will the jobs of the grounds maintenance personnel be extended?

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Fridays Spanish Worship Service - 7 p.m.  
German/Spanish home Bible Studies - 8 p.m.

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**Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 214th Aviation Regiment, salute during honors to the nation at the unit change of command in Wiesbaden July 29. Small photo below right: Col. Van J. Vorhees Jr., 12th Combat Aviation Brigade commander, passes the 2-214th colors to incoming commander, Lt. Col. Edwin C. Brouse, as outgoing commander, Lt. Col. Richard G. Watson, looks on.**

## Passing command

*Units welcome new leaders in Wiesbaden*



**Story and photos by**

**Karl Weisel**

*U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden  
Public Affairs Office*

It's change of command season in U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden. As this issue was going to press, four units marked the transition of their senior leaders.

Two of the 66th Military Intelligence Brigade's battalions held changes of command on Wiesbaden Army Airfield July 20 and 22.

The first ceremony saw the farewell of outgoing 2nd MI Battalion commander, Lt. Col. Jonathan E. Freeman, and the assumption of command by Lt. Col. Michael A. Cardenas. The second saw Lt. Col. Gary P. Miskovsky Jr. taking the 24th MIBn. reins from Lt. Col. James G. Patterson.

During both ceremonies, Col. James G. Zellmer, 66th MI Bde. commander, praised the contributions of the battalions' Soldiers and civilians in helping protect the security of Americans around the globe. Observing that many of their comrades are deployed in combat operations around the world, Zellmer said they are consistently challenged with supporting U.S. and Allied operations that extend well beyond U.S. Army Europe.

Zellmer also paid tribute to the Family members who stay behind while their spouses deploy and those who have paid

the ultimate sacrifice while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Freeman, who moved on to serve as deputy commander with the 66th MI, was noted for "consistently putting the welfare of his Soldiers before himself."

Calling it "an incredible honor and a privilege" to lead 2nd MI, Cardenas thanked Soldiers, Families and civilians and mentors for their support.

During the 24th MI change of command, Patterson, who heads to an assignment in Afghanistan, said he was gratified to have served with "America's finest men and women" and thanked host nation military partners, the 932nd Electronic Warfare Battalion, for their outstanding support. He also praised the volunteers and Family Readiness Group members who "made a world of difference to the entire battalion."

Lt. Gen. Mark P. Hertling, U.S. Army Europe commander, helped ensure a smooth transition of leadership in the 5th Signal Command during a ceremony on Wiesbaden Army Airfield July 25. During the ceremony, Hertling discussed the critical role communicators play in "the three things we do in the Army—shoot, move and communicate," while welcom-



ing incoming commander, Col. Bruce Crawford, and bidding farewell to former commander, Brig. Gen. Jeffrey G. Smith Jr.

Calling Crawford "the perfect leader to build upon the successes" of 5th Signal Command, Hertling said Smith's leadership was marked by a "remarkable sense of precision and pride." He also thanked Smith's wife, Deborah, for her many volunteer contributions. "You both have been magnificent."

Smith moves on to assume duties as deputy commander for proponentcy at the U.S. Army Cyber Command.

Crawford said it was "an honor and a privilege" to serve as the 29th commander of 5th Signal Command — a great organization with "a reputation for service and excellence."

Community members gathered July 29 on Wiesbaden Army Airfield to witness the passing of command of the 1st Battalion, 214th Aviation Regiment, from Lt. Col. Richard G. Watson to Lt. Col. Edwin C. Brouse.



**Lt. Col. Michael A. Cardenas accepts the 2nd Military Intelligence Battalion colors from Col. James G. Zellmer, 66th MI Brigade commander.**



**Photo left: Incoming 24th MI Bn. commander, Lt. Col. Gary P. Miskovsky Jr. (center), looks on as Zellmer accepts the battalion colors from outgoing commander Lt. Col. James G. Patterson.**



**Lt. Gen. Mark Hertling, U.S. Army Europe commander, accepts the 5th Signal Command colors from Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Smith Jr. before passing them to Col. Bruce Crawford.**



## Wiesbaden's Neroberg offers something for all

By Lauren Moore  
Special to the Herald Union

Wiesbaden's Nerobergbahn offers passengers a step back in time while enjoying the present.

First, hop aboard an old wooden train at an old-fashioned German hut station. Though the ride is very short, the scenery leaves one too breathless for conversation while taking in the view of Wiesbaden's vineyards, the skyline, and three architecturally famous churches.

The most interesting thing about the train is that it is powered through hydroelectricity.

Opened in 1888, the train line has two cars which propel each other up and down the mountain. When a car is at the top, its tanks are filled with 1,800 gallons of water to make it heavier than the upward bound car. The conductor uses a brake system

to lower the car down the mountain, in turn pulling the other car up the mountain on a 1,483-foot steel cable. In 1939 the state of Wiesbaden wished to convert it to standard electrical usage, in order to facilitate more passengers. But those plans were suspended due to World War II. In 1988 the train line was declared a technical monument by the state of Hessen.

Still, there is more beauty and adventure waiting at the top.

First one sees the Russian amphitheater where live, improvised shows take place during the summer. Its quaint size is part of its charm.

Then there's the Russian gazebo with a panoramic view of the Wiesbaden sky-



Photo by Lauren Moore  
A view from the top of Wiesbaden's Neroberg area near a copper-domed pavilion overlooks the landscape of the city.

line, equipped with public telescopes.

Also in the area is an old wall with two lion heads overlooking the Wiesbaden vineyards, and paying tribute to the fallen of World War I.

For the hungry, there is also a tower restaurant with indoor and outdoor seating and plenty of eating options such as pastas, traditional German dishes and varying plate sized as well.

A few minutes walk from the train stop is a historically significant Russian Orthodox church. It was built in the years 1847 to

1855 by Duke Adolf Nassau to protect and honor the grave of his 19-year-old wife Princess Elizabeth Mikhailovna, grand duchess of Russia and Nassau from 1826 to 1845. She died during childbirth. Elizabeth was the daughter of Michael Romanov, the niece of Tsar Alexander I and Nicholas I. On May 25, 1855, the church was dedicated to Saint Elizabeth, mother of St. John the Baptist.

"I'm from Köln so this is my first time here. I'm here with my grandma. So far I love it because it is just so nice. The train and

the church- everything is just so beautiful," said Mathias Kueberlin about his experiences on the Neroberg.

While attractions draw newcomers, it retains old visitors as well. "We live in Mainz so we come back frequently," said members of the Muller family, who come back occasionally for the high ropes adventure course.

The course features how to safely harness yourself, a warm up, and several adventures in high ropes courses. For more information and booking go to [www.kletterwald-neroberg.de/index.html](http://www.kletterwald-neroberg.de/index.html).

Maresa Geerlings, who works at the ropes course said, "It's absolutely a lot of fun. I sometimes work in the counter, but I often instruct climbing lessons too. I like working in the park because of the ropes courses; because you can walk and hike the mountain as well."

Daniel and Fabian, youths who live in Wiesbaden, said the Neroberg is also an "amazing" place to mountain bike. "We come here a lot," they said.

So whether its history, adventure sports, beautiful scenery or casual walks, the Neroberg is a place in the area, that has something for everyone. (Lauren Moore is a college intern with the garrison's Public Affairs Office)



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A view of the Eiffel Tower from Trocadero Square in Paris. The square is always buzzing with activity during the summers. Get your fill of street performers, protests and vendors while touring one of the city's favorite stops.

## Meandering on the way to Paris

Story and photos by  
**Chrystal Smith**  
U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden  
Public Affairs Office

There is a world of things yet to explore less than five hours down the Autobahn, beyond the border of Germany into France.

But before hopping on that express tour to Paris, consider building a personal itinerary that allows for exploration at various points along the route at one's leisure.

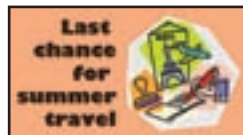
That was my plan during a trip to the city of romance, wine, crepes and museums in hopes of showing my visiting

brother, a low-maintenance kind of guy, a good time in Europe.

After a good night's rest, the decision was made to drive to Paris.

Previewing the route on the map influenced the decision to stay overnight in Châlons-en-Champagne—the capital of the Champagne-Ardenne region of France, a point about two hours outside of Paris and neighbor to the larger Reims.

Once there and stopped for the evening, we explored the town on foot and took in



its quaint simplicity. The impromptu tour included a little stroll around the square in view of the half-timbered facades, a tranquil walk through the garden passage that rolled alongside a tributary of the La Marne River.

Of course arriving after 7 p.m. limits the things one can do as the town practically shuts down at sunset.

The center square offered musical entertainment that went on into the evening. Sitting just off the square was the Notre-Dame-en-Vaux church, part of a UNESCO

World Heritage site built between 1157 and 1217. Because night overtook us, we did not see the sights one may find when searching the Internet for information on the town.

After a night of rest, it was on to the city of light. In less than three hours we were cruising up the cobblestoned Avenue des Champs-Élysées toward the Arc de Triumph.

Well ahead of the traffic and the coming crowds, we parked in a garage just off the boulevard, snagged breakfast and a couple of tickets for a simple hop-on hop-off bus tour to see the highlights of the extravagant city.

Though many tend to rush for the big tourist attractions such as the Louvre, Eiffel Tower or the Arc de Triumph, take a

moment to breathe in the city's ambiance.

The city offers an abundance of options to be explored. Leave yourself open to the spontaneity that tends to exist in such a large city. Our visit was interrupted by a Tropical Carnival that featured people from a number of tropical locations who paraded the Avenue des Champs-Élysées arrayed in vibrant, colorful and imaginative costumes.

If venturing off to one of its countless museums, make sure to have plenty of money and time to cover the admission price and see everything.



A view of the Notre-Dame-en-Vaux church in the center of Châlons-en-Champagne. Photo left: Color and vibrantly arrayed troupes parade the Avenue des Champs Élysee July 3 during the Tropical Carnival of Paris.





# Excellent service, no idle boast

U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Command Sgt. Maj. Hector Prince and Col. Jeffrey Dill, commander, recognized four individuals July 29 for outstanding customer service in July.

The employees were honored for their overall efforts to provide remarkable customer service. All received certificates

of appreciation and a \$250 cash award.

The following people were acknowledged by coworkers and customers who submitted comments to the Interactive Customer Evaluation System:

**Marcus Ebert**, Directorate of Logistics supply technician, was recognized for outstanding job performance and dedication

to DOL's mission for managing, distributing and scheduling the turn in of all furniture located within the Wiesbaden, Dexheim and McCully military communities.

**John Gardener**, Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation carpenter at Wiesbaden Arts and Crafts, is noted for possessing a "customer service first attitude." His constant efforts at providing superior and timely service to local units and private organizations have received kudos and numerous positive comments.

**Jurgen Koch**, Wiesbaden Dining Facility rations technician, was noted for continually working above the standard ... developing and maintaining effective relationships with coworkers and customers to enhance the work and service environments.

**Lewis Pullum**, USAG Wiesbaden motor vehicle op-



Photo by Chrystal Smith

**Col. Jeffrey Dill, along with Wiesbaden Lord Mayor Dr. Helmut Mueller and Command Sgt. Maj. Hector Prince, recognize Lewis Pullum, Marcus Ebert, John Gardener and Jurgen Koch for excellent customer service.**

erator, is noted for possessing tremendous foresight and planning skills. He "is a pleasure to work with. As a member of the garrison, this employee represents us well wherever he goes — professional, helpful and courteous."

Nominations are submitted

monthly to the Directorate of Plans, Analysis and Integration Office and are evaluated by a committee that comprises representatives from garrison directorates and staff agencies who vote on submissions. Call mil 337-6337 for more information.

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## Community notes ... Community notes

### Sesame Street coming to town

Don't miss the chance to meet Elmo and his pals Aug. 20 during two shows at 2 and 5 p.m. in the Wiesbaden Fitness Center. Performances are open to all ages and are free.

### Community Open House

Learn more about everything available in the U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden, services and support, at a Community Open House Aug. 23 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Wiesbaden Fitness Center.

### New Mainz-Kastel hours

The Mainz-Kastel Storage Station Shoppette now closes at 7 p.m. and Burger King at 4 p.m. due to low customer use. Charley's remains open until 7 p.m.

### Employee excellence

Heinz Kaffenberger, director of Wiesbaden's Directorate of Logistics, 405th Army Field Support Brigade, was among several 405th AFSB employees recognized for excellence during a ceremony in Kaiserslautern July 8. Kaffenberger was named the DOL employee of the quarter. (*Courtesy of Jennifer King, 405th AFSB Public Affairs*)

### Girl Scouts celebrate the '50s

Girls ages 5-18 are welcome to join the fun at the Wiesbaden Girl Scouts Fabulous '50s Sock Hop Sept. 16 from 5-7 p.m. at the Wiesbaden Middle School gym. Come dressed in theme or not and enjoy ice cream floats and more. Contact Erin Fry at [bluberrie818@yahoo.com](mailto:bluberrie818@yahoo.com) for more information. For more information on joining the Girl Scouts contact Cindy Fry at [cindykayfry@yahoo.com](mailto:cindykayfry@yahoo.com).

### Cub Scout Castle Fest

Members of Cub Scout Pack 13 invite community newcomers with boys who will be entering first through fifth grade to join them at a Castle Festival in Burg Eppstein Aug. 28 from 2-5



## AWAG: New Hessen Area representative looks forward to upcoming professional conferences

**By Karl Weisel**  
U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden  
Public Affairs Office

There's a new Hessen Area AWAG representative in town and she comes with a wealth of experience.

Joyce Schloesser, an Army wife for more than 45 years and longtime volunteer with such organizations as the USO, American Red Cross, women's clubs and the chapel, said she is looking forward to serving fellow volunteers as the local advocate for AWAG.

"I look forward to working with the community and planning the (Hessen Area) conference which will be in November," Schloesser said, looking ahead to the annual Europe-wide spring conference in Garmisch at the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort as well.

As Hessen representative,

Schloesser said she has the opportunity to learn from local volunteers and to team up with members from other areas while planning for future events. "Our planning conference is in Ramstein in September.

"AWAG is a good social organization," she said, explaining that besides making new friends and sharing experiences, members learn from one another — how different military communities tackle challenges and better ways of doing things.

"I think it's a fantastic organization. It's open to anyone in the community — any ID cardholder who wants to get involved," she said, adding that professionalism is the key. Members serve their commu-



nities by representing their various volunteer agencies and are the recipients of a host of professional services, workshops and training sessions during the AWAG conferences.

"That's where we learn new ideas ... and socialize with people in the same positions in other communities," she said. "It's really neat when you come together like that."

Schloesser, who has been the driving force behind an American Veterans Center in Hanau, said she will be available to share information about AWAG at the upcoming Community Open House this month and Wiesbaden Community Spouses Club events. For more information about AWAG or the upcoming conference, call civ (01522) 131 9326.

408-0330.

### FRG Forum

Family Readiness Group leaders, liaisons, volunteers and others interested in FRGs are invited to the FRG Forum Aug. 10 from 10 a.m. to noon in Room 22 at Army Community Service in Hainerberg Housing. Call Sherri Davenport at mil 335-5254 for details.

### Blood drive

The Wiesbaden American Red Cross sponsors a blood drive Aug. 18 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Tony Bass Fitness

Center on Wiesbaden Army Airfield. To register as a donor or for more information visit [www.militarydonor.com](http://www.militarydonor.com). Call Jana Fullmer at mil 337-1760 for more information.

### Hispanic Heritage Month

The 2nd Signal Brigade and U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden will celebrate Hispanic American Heritage Month Sept. 23 at the Wiesbaden Fitness Center. Call Sgt. 1st Class Gerrine Garcia at civ (0611) 705-7039 for details.

### Banks closing

The Community Bank will upgrade its automated teller system in September. To facilitate the upgrade all banking center will be required to close one business day each. The Hainerberg Shopping Center bank will be closed Sept. 14, the Mainz-Kastel bank Sept. 22 and the Wiesbaden Army Airfield bank on Oct. 5.

### Coping classes

The Family Advocacy Program offers **Positive Guidance** Aug. 5 at 10 a.m., an **Anger/Stress Management Class** Aug. 16 at 10 a.m., a **Couple's Communication Workshop** Aug. 24 at 10 a.m. and **De-Stress** with Army Community Service Aug. 25 at 9:30 a.m. Call Michelle Stosich at mil 335-5254 for more information.

### BOSS keeps moving

Join fellow Better Opportunities for Single Soldier members as they hold a **PS-3 and X-Box Tournament** Aug. 13, head to **Tropical Island Berlin** Aug. 20, go **camping in Camp Darby** Sept. 2-5 and host a **Texas Hold'em Tournament** Sept. 16. Call mil 335-5397.

### Practical healing seminars

The Wiesbaden Library hosts lunch and learn seminars Aug. 9 and 16, and Sept. 13 from noon to 12:45 p.m. Featured speakers include Gabrielle Adu-Sanyah and Stacy MoneyMaker-Donachie. Bring your lunch and learn about practical healing. Call civ (0611) 705-1740 for details.

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# Myste

Story and photos by  
**Christopher John Wood**  
*Special to the Herald Union*

**I**t was my third trip, and I still wasn't sure what keeps calling me back.

Perhaps it is the ghosts of Royal Air Force pilots downed after the air battles in World War II or maybe the Knights of St John who fell during the long Ottoman siege. Most probably though it is the Maltese fltra sandwiches, rabbit and the Kinney orange drink unique to this gastronomic heaven. It could be the beautiful rock-strewn outcroppings dotted with more fortifications than this history addicted traveler could take.

Malta is a land of mystery and beauty just a two-hour flight from Germany.

I stayed in a three-star hotel in Buggiba. It's still a good deal if you ignore the darkest legacy of the British Empire in Malta — English food (the only thing served). I quickly retreated to Maltese restaurants.

The numerous bright yellow buses, mostly from the 1950s, make travel easy ... if somewhat dangerous.

Malta is dotted with the world's oldest standing man-made walls, according to UNESCO. The Malta tourist travels to a civilization that predates Stonehenge in England.

## Atta-Hö

By **Wendy Brown**  
*Special to the Herald Union*

**O**ur decision to visit Atta-Höhle in Attendorn began with a simple question from my 8-year-old son after school one day. "Can we visit a cave sometime?" he asked.

"Sure," I said, and soon found the Atta-Höhle website on the Internet.

With beautiful pictures of stalactites, stalagmites and other rock formations, it looked like a perfect place to take the children for a day trip during summer vacation.

Our visit on a rainy Sunday afternoon in July proved my impressions from the website accurate.

One of the advantages of the cave tour is that it is well designed for children. At 40 minutes in length it is not too long and not



An excursion boat passes Burg Rheinstein, one of many castles in the Rhein River Valley, on its way to picking up passengers at the Assmannshausen pier. The boat ride is included in the Ring Ticket.

## Ring Ticket: *Excursion boat, chairlift and cable car rides included in Rhein River tour offer*

Story and photos by  
**Karl Weisel**

*U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden  
Public Affairs Office*

**L**ooking for a quick and easy way to dazzle your family or friends visiting from faraway places?

How about offering them an opportunity to soar over vineyards, sample the locale cuisine and vintages, enjoy a ride on a river boat and learn a little about what makes the upper Rhein River Valley one of Europe's treasured World Heritage sites?

While most people who have resided for any length of time in the Hessen or Rheinland Pfalz regions know about the tourist allure of the castles and villages that overlook the Rhein Valley between Mainz and Koblenz, some may not be aware that the towns of Rüdesheim and Assmannshausen offer a combination "Ring Ticket" valid for a ride on the cable car to or from Rüdesheim, the chairlift from or to Assmannshausen and an excursion boat connecting the neighboring towns with Bingen on the opposite riverbank.

It makes for the ideal day trip offering a variety of views from lookouts along the trail connecting the two cable cars and the river vantage on the excursion boat, a short hike to work up a decent appetite and the chance to stop off all along the route.

If you decide to start in

Rüdesheim, you'll want to join the tourist masses in wandering through its narrow streets and alleys, including the famed Drosselgasse, a cobblestoned pedestrian passage that has attracted wine lovers and those making their way down the river since the 15th century. You might also want to visit the Brömersburg — the oldest castle on the Rhein which features a wine museum.

Once you've had your fill of the tourist crowds, hop on the Seilbahn Rüdesheim — two-person cable cars — and float over the growing grapes as you are transported up to the Niederwalddenkmal — a 38-meter-high statue that pays tribute to German unity. Built in the 1870s and '80s, the statue of Germania commemorated Germany's success in the Franco-Prussian War.

Signs at the top of the hill show the way through the Nieder Forest to the top of the chairlift which descends to the town of Assmannshausen. The roughly 20-minute walk offers several short side hikes to vantage points high over the Rhein River, towers and other attractions constructed to entertain visitors, such as the Zauberhöhle — a building that opens onto a dark, serpentine passage offering a spooky thrill.

Visitors also have the option of stopping to take in a falconry show just above the Niederwalddenkmal.



**Two-person gondolas sail over the vineyards above Rüdesheim on their way to the Niederwalddenkmal.**

From one lofty lookout visitors can gaze back at Bingen and a small tower set on an island between the two river banks. Youngsters will appreciate the folk tale surrounding the tower — a story of avarice and greed from the 10th century.

According to legend, Mainz Archbishop Hatto II sequestered himself in the tower after tricking starving peasants with the offer of grain from his hoard and then ordering them to be killed in a barn fire. After observing that their screams sounded like the squeaking of mice, Hatto was set upon by an Army of mice that swam across the river to

his island and ate him alive in the tower.

Hikers are invited to stop for a cold drink or a meal at the Jagdschloss (hunting lodge) restaurant or continue down the mountain via chairlift to Assmannshausen, which is noted for its red wines.

Be sure to look at the schedule (provided when purchasing the Ring Ticket) carefully before deciding where to stop for lunch as the boats back to Rüdesheim only run every hour or so and less frequently in autumn.

The excursion boat ride back offers one more look at the sights along the river — the Ehrenfels Castle ruin, the mouse tower and a stop in Bingen. Passengers can pick up postcards and snacks during the short ride back on the river.

Cost of a Ring Ticket is €11 for adults or €5.50 for children ages 5-13. They are available at the cable car stations in Rüdesheim and Assmannshausen and at the excursion boat stop in Bingen.

Those who would rather spend more time hiking may decide to simply purchase a one-way ticket up to the Niederwalddenkmal and then walking back down through the vineyards, stopping for picnic along the way — either way a great way to spend time with friends and family while enjoying a truly unique setting.



# erious Malta: *Explore this archipelagic nation to follow the course of European history*

Hagar Quim is a collection of stone dolmens jutting up to the sky against a beautiful seascape and is one of many Neolithic ruins that dot Malta. What function did it serve? Was it as a calendar or maybe a shrine to the mysterious headless Earth goddess found everywhere on Malta?

Farther to the north from Hagar Quim, on the Dingli Cliffs, are the stone tracks mentioned in the book "Chariots of the Gods" as evidence, to some, of early space visitors.

Malta has been a player in the ebb and flow of western history as Phoenician, Roman, Ottoman, Byzantium, British and German forces have all landed on its shores. And Biblical references cite Paul having landed at St Paul's Bay or on Malta's south coast.

Those interested in military history will find great scuba wreck diving on Malta. Excellent dives to plane and ship wrecks invite many each year to Malta's warm waters. WWII bunkers and ancient sites line Malta's rocky coast.

The Lascaris War Rooms under the Barracca Gardens offer a respite from the sun. The rooms are a restored command center where the defense of Malta, the invasion of Sicily (Operation



Husky) and the war in the Mediterranean were planned. Defiant

The Malta at War Museum in nearby Vittoriosa features a WWII air raid shelter showing how the population endured more than 3,000 air raids. The near collapse of Malta, which was prevented by the ill-fated Operation Pedestal

convoy (only four of 14 ships survived to supply the island), is detailed at the war museum. Even while being besieged, Malta forces sank two thirds of passing Axis freighters, thus ensuring the Nazi defeat in North Africa.

Farther south at Ta Quali one finds the Air Museum and Crafts Village. The Air Museum is an uninspiring collection of RAF planes from WWII and the Cold War. Next to the Air Museum

is the Crafts Village featuring artisans who produce glassware and artwork of superb beauty at a reasonable price.

Malta, an EU member state, is an ancient land beset with modern problems. Low wages and illegal immigration from North Africa have created class struggle in this tourist mecca. I had a cup of tea in a cafe run by the Malta Labour Party half expecting to see a glowering picture of Karl Marx bedecked with red banners, yet found only a kindly Jesus with a Maltese flag. Malta remains a society of faith in secular Europe.

Sadly, all good things must end. One last swim in the mystery pool with the beautiful fish and then back to Germany to plan a fourth trip to explore yet more Malta mysteries.



**An old cannon stands guard in front of a government building in Malta's capital, Valletta. Photo above left: The author poses for a photo in Valletta.**

## hle cave within easy drive of Wiesbaden

too short, and it is packed with amazing, lit-up formations. "Mom, is that frosting?" my wide-eyed, 6-year-old son asked me early on in the tour, pointing to a glistening sheet of rock that looked as though someone had spilled a bucket of sugary glaze down a wall of the cave.

On the day we visited, tours of 25 people started approximately every 15 minutes, but the wait could be longer on busier days. The tour started with a walk down a sloped tunnel roughly 150 feet long, and our tour guide met us at the bottom of the tunnel to explain the ground rules—make sure you have suitable shoes for walking and no taking pictures.

The terrain inside the cave goes up and down in parts, but most children as young as 3 could walk it.

No matter what time of

year, the cave is at a constant temperature of 48 degrees Fahrenheit, according to the cave's website, so it is a good idea to bring a light jacket or sweatshirt.

The tour is in German, but the cave's formations are so beautiful, the added information is unnecessary to appreciate the cave. Anyone interested in the cave's history and the science behind the formations can find that information on the cave's website in English.

The 119-mile drive north from Wiesbaden to Attendorn takes between an hour and a half to two hours, and the green scenery

along the way makes it a pleasurable drive.

Entrance fees are €7.50 for adults and €4.50 for children. The ticket office does not accept debit or credit cards, and there

is no ATM at the site, so bring cash. There is a gift shop and a restaurant at the site.

The cave is open year round, but is open varying hours depending on the time of year, according

to the cave's website. From May 1 to Sept. 4 it opens every day of the week at 10 a.m., and the last admittance is at 4:30 p.m.

For more information visit [www.atta-hoehle.de](http://www.atta-hoehle.de).



**Photo by Wendy Brown**

**Visitors wait to take a tour of the cave. Photo right: Stalactites and stalagmites fill one of the cave's chambers.**



**Photo courtesy of the Atta-Höhle website**





## Hessenpark

*Visitors invited to step back in time at open-air museum*

**Story and photos by**

**Karl Weisel**

*U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden  
Public Affairs Office*

**I**t's easy to find traces of the past mingled with modern structures wherever one looks in Germany.

But one open-air museum in the Taunus Mountains is dedicated strictly to showcasing what life was like in Hessen during the past 400 years.

Hessenpark, located near Neu-Anspach and not far from the reconstructed Roman Saalburg fortress, is chock full of centuries old half-timbered houses, churches, synagogues, schools, windmills and re-enactors demonstrating what it was like to live and work during a time when indoor plumbing and refrigeration were uncommon.

The large park area which covers some 150 acres offers a unique look at how things once were — including a time when many Hessians were leaving the region as either indentured servants, conscripted Soldiers to fight alongside the British or as emigrants on their way to new lives as pioneers in a very young United States of America.

And it keeps growing. Every year more rescued structures from villages throughout Hessen are transported to the park to await rebuilding. Piles of timbers with small signs indicate the origin and shape of the structure which in the future will join the 100s of buildings which have already been meticulously restored and refurnished to give visitors an idea of what rural life was like before, during and after the industrial revolution.

On various days people dressed in period attire can be found in buildings and fields of the park practicing handicrafts and endeavors from an earlier time. As women in bonnets use scythes to mow down wild grass, in another section men and women work on looms to make cloth, with hand tools building barrels and clay to make pottery from the region.

A market square, located near the entrance of Hessenpark and surrounded by tall half-timbered buildings, contains a working bakery, guest house, cheese store and other establishments. The square is also frequently the site of markets whereby vendors from throughout Hessen gather to



**Visitors exit one of the many half-timbered houses on display. Photo right: A weaver explains the process to visitors. Photo upper right: A metal advertisement in a re-created store from last century.**

sell items from the region.

While strolling through the various "regions" of Hessenpark, one encounters grazing sheep, pigs, ducks, horses, a church cemetery, windmills, houses of worship and historical boundary markers. The border stones, gathered from each of Hessen's regions, feature coats of arms and other markings — the oldest of which has a star from the county of Ziegenhain dating



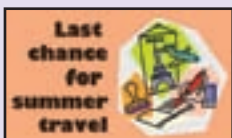
back to 1450.

Hessenpark is open daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. during the summer months through Oct. 31. In November it opens an hour later and closes an hour earlier. Admission is €6 for adults, €2.70 for children and €12 for a family ticket.

For more information visit

[www.hessenpark.de](http://www.hessenpark.de).

Not far from Hessenpark are two other sites worth getting to know — the Roman Saalburg fortress and the Lochmühle amusement park. Visit the garrison's home page at [www.wiesbaden.army.mil/hunior/Travel/Taunusadventures.htm](http://www.wiesbaden.army.mil/hunior/Travel/Taunusadventures.htm) for more information.





By Donald Seltzer  
Volksmarch Editor

## Take a hike: A guide to volksmarching in the Baumholder/Wiesbaden area

### Trail notes

Interested in volksmarching but not sure how things work? Send an email message to [volksmarch@gmail.com](mailto:volksmarch@gmail.com) with the subject "Getting Started."

Thanks to regular contributors Richard and Donna Glenn, and Pat Patterson for sending brochures.

Look for additional event choices at [www.wiesbaden.army.mil/hunion/Takeahike.htm](http://www.wiesbaden.army.mil/hunion/Takeahike.htm).

### Weekend of Aug. 6-7

**Ebernahn/Westerwald (56424)**—This event is northeast of Limburg and offers, besides the standard shorter routes, a 42-kilometer marathon as well as a 50-kilometer route. Use Autobahn 3's Montabaur or Ransbach-Baumbach exits. IVV signs will direct drivers on unnumbered roads for the few miles to the start.

**Start:** Rosenheckhalle on Dernbacher Strasse **Saturday:** 6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. (5 and 10 km), 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. (20 km), 6-9 a.m. (42 km) and 6-7:30 a.m. (50 km) **Sunday:** 6:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km), 6-9 a.m. (42 km) and 6-7:30 a.m. (50 km) **Trail:** Hilly, mostly woods **Award:** Coffee cup set (short trails) or patch and certificate (marathon trails).

**Hottenbach (55758)**—This walk is north of Idar-Oberstein and should offer wanderers a scenic trail in a very pretty area. From Idar-Oberstein, briefly head north on B-422 to Tiefenstein, then take unnumbered roads through Herborn, Mörschied and Weiden in order to reach the start.

**Start:** Sportplatz **Saturday:** 6:30 a.m. to 2



p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km) **Sunday:** 6:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km) **Trail:** Hilly, mostly woods **Award:** Mounted gemstone.

### Weekend of Aug. 13-14

**Lützelbach-Wiebelsbach (64750)**—This walk is southeast of Darmstadt in the scenic Odenwald region. Benches along the trail reward those who pause with scenic

views of the countryside. From Hanau and Babenhausen use B-45 south to Höchst im Odenwald. The starting point in Lützelbach is approximately four miles farther on an unnumbered road. From elsewhere use Autobahn 3 and the Hanau exit to connect with B-45, heading south toward Dieburg.

**Start:** Fritz-Walter-Halle on Schulstrasse **Saturday:** 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (5 and 11 km) and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (20 km) **Sunday:** 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. (5 and 11 km) and 7 a.m. to noon (20 km) **Trail:** Very hilly, mostly woods and some fields **Award:** From previous events.



Photo by Karl Weisel

Hikers head out on the trail near Assmannshausen.

**Oberwesel-Langscheid (55430)**—This walk is more than a third of the way between Bingen and Koblenz but it's near the pretty Rhein River town of Oberwesel — itself worth a visit. Return home using scenic B-9 and you'll pass through the town of Bacharach with some great shopping. From the Wiesbaden/Mainz communities use Autobahns 60 and 61 toward Koblenz and take the Rheinböllen exit. Follow an unnumbered road through Dichtelbach, Erbach and Perscheid to reach the start at Langscheid.

**Start:** Gemeindehaus at Bacharacher Strasse 8 **Saturday and Sunday:** 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km) **Trails:** Hilly, fields and woods **Award:** Cook book.

**Mainz-Gonsenheim (55124)**—This Sunday-only walk is easily reached via Autobahn and is just north of Mainz. Use Autobahns 60 or 643 to take the Mainz-Gonsenheim exit to find IVV signs to the start.

**Start:** Karl-Geib-Haus at Kapellenstrasse 44 **Sunday:** 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. (5 km) and 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. (10 km) **Trail:** Flat, mostly stroller-friendly trails, woods.

**Award:** From previous events.

**Tiefenbach/Hunsrück (55471)**—Wanderers should enjoy this walk in the scenic Hunsrück area. Tiefenbach is due west of Bingen and south of Simmern. From Idar-Oberstein

use B-41 toward Bad Kreuznach, B-421 toward Kirchberg and B-50 toward Simmern. Take an unnumbered road south of Simmern through Holzbach to the start at Tiefenbach.

From points east of Bingen connect with Autobahn A-61 toward Koblenz, exit at Rheinböllen and use B-50 toward Simmern to pick up the unnumbered road leading to the start.

**Start:** Wildburghalle on Im Gründchen **Saturday and Sunday:** 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km) **Trail:** Hilly, woods **Award:** From previous events.

### Weekend of Aug. 27-28

**Rödermark-Urberach (63322)**—This walk is northeast of Darmstadt and near Babenhausen in a pretty, wooded area. Former residents of the military community may take the opportunity to visit their one-time home. Urberach is between Dieburg and Hanau on B-45. Use B-26 or Autobahn 3 to connect with this road.

**Start:** KSV-Sportheim at Turngartenstrasse 10 **Saturday and Sunday:** 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. (6, 10 and 20 km) **Trail:** Flat and stroller-friendly, neighborhoods, fields and woods **Award:** None.

**Schiersfeld (67823)**—This is an easy-to-reach event south of Bad Kreuznach. From Bad Kreuznach use B-48 toward Kaiserslautern and connect with an unnumbered road at Mannweiler. A short drive of approximately three kilometers leads to the start. From points east of Bad Kreuznach use the Wörrstadt exit of Autobahn 63 south of Mainz and B-420 to connect with B-48.

**Start:** Fest tent near intersection of Bismarckstr. and Sulzhofstr. **Saturday and Sunday:** 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. (6 and 10 km) and 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. (21 km) **Trail:** Hilly, woods and fields **Award:** From previous events.

### Free country concert

Armed Forces Entertainment presents a free concert by Nicole Frechette Aug. 6 from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Wiesbaden Entertainment Center. Call civ (0611) 408-0190 for more information.

### Baumholder Outdoor Rec events

Baumholder Outdoor Recreation goes to Euro Disney Aug. 6, the Trier Wine Fest Aug. 6, Paris Aug. 13, Legoland Germany Aug. 20, Medieval Market Speyer Aug. 28 and Croatia Sept. 1-5. Call mil 485-7182.

### Bike and Car Fest

The sixth annual American Bike and Car Festival will be held Aug. 26-28 at the MSC Hofheim-Diedenbergen. The

event will feature stunt shows, a bull-riding contest, music and more. Visit [www.abc-festival.de](http://www.abc-festival.de) for details.

### Operation Rising Star

Interested in winning an all-expenses paid, three-day professional recording studio experience in Hollywood? This year's Operation Rising Star will be held Aug. 12, 19, 26 and Sept. 9 at 7 p.m. at the Wiesbaden Entertainment Center. Baumholder holds its Rising Star auditions Sept. 19 at 7 p.m. at the Hilltop Theater with the first round of competition slated to be held Sept. 21 at 7 p.m. at the Rheinlander Club. Compete for the grand prize or other cash prizes. Singers must be active

duty, Reserve, National Guard or their Family members age 18 and older with a valid ID card. Visit [OpRisingStar.com](http://OpRisingStar.com) for the official rules and more information.

### Afghanistan photo exhibit

Magnum photographer Steve McCurry will feature a selection of his photos depicting the people and landscapes of Afghanistan Aug. 19 to Oct. 5 at the English Theatre Frankfurt, Tuesday to Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday from 3-6:30 p.m. and Sunday from 3-5 p.m.

### Frankfurt Mainfest

Frankfurt holds its annual Mainfest along the banks of the Main River Aug. 5-8.

### USO trips

The Rhein-Main Area USOs offer trips to Cologne Aug. 6, Strasbourg Aug. 6, Speyer Aug. 6, Weinheim Aug. 13, the European Elvis Festival Aug. 13, the Koblenz Garden Show Aug. 13, Riesling Route with Eric the Red Aug. 14, Ladenburg Aug. 16, Bückeburg Castle Aug. 20 and Disneyland Parks Aug. 20. Stop by any Rhein Main Area USO office or call civ (0611) 731 301 for information.

### Irish Pub highlights

Wiesbaden's Irish Pub features live music by One Drink Pony Aug. 5, the Benrix Aug. 6, Ben Kyle Aug. 11, Steven McGowan Aug. 12, Sven Ruppert Band Aug. 13, Bad

Boyz Aug. 19, Planet Sulo Aug. 20, Macy's Mob Aug. 26 and the Timmy Rough Duo Aug. 27. Visit [www.irish-pub-wiesbaden.de](http://www.irish-pub-wiesbaden.de).

### Ham radio license

Interested in getting a ham radio license? Before you can get on the air to communicate with others around the world, you'll need an amateur radio license, regulated by the Federal Communications Commission. Learn the rules and how to operate safely. An FCC test session will be conducted by the American Radio Relay League Sept. 24 at 10 a.m. in Idstein (Motorola offices at Telco Kriesel, 65510 Idstein). To take the FCC test session bring a photo ID and \$15. Contact [mr2y@hotmail.com](mailto:mr2y@hotmail.com) for more information.



# Register now for fall sports

By Victoria Myers  
Special to the Herald Union

Summer is almost over and school is about to start. That means fall sports are starting up.

This year's Child, Youth and School Services sports include soccer, cheerleading, tackle and flag football. "CYSS is sponsoring tackle football because it is very big in the States," said Ingo Rhiel with Wiesbaden's CYSS.

Registration for fall sports runs through Aug. 12. You can either go online at <http://webtrac.mwr.army.mil> or stop by Parent Central Services in Building 1215 on Wiesbaden Army Airfield to sign up.

Children ages 3-17 can register, depending on the sport in which they want to participate.

To prepare for these sports, participants should be in shape, Rhiel said — especially soccer where a player should "be able to run for 30 minutes straight which is regular game time, able to handle the soccer ball, etc."

Volunteer coaches are also crucial to a successful season, Rhiel said. "CYSS is always looking for coaches."

This can include high school students willing to teach the children, he said, adding that this can contribute to accumulating coveted volunteer hours. "All you need to do is complete the coach training course."

Clinics to help prepare coaches will be held Aug 13, 20 and 22.

Anybody interested in coaching can contact CYSS via email at [dlusagwiesbadenfmwrysf@eur.army.mil](mailto:dlusagwiesbadenfmwrysf@eur.army.mil).



Photo by Karl Weisel

**Wiesbaden CYSS's Brad Hagan coaches youths during last year's tackle football season.**

For more information on the Wiesbaden season or coaching call mil 337-7816 or civ (0611) 705-7816. For information in Baumholder call CYSS Sports at mil 485-8249 or civ (06783) 6-8249 (*Victoria Myers is a Summer Hire employee with the garrison's Public Affairs Office*)

## Sports shorts ... Sports shorts

### Skate/bike competition

Head to the Wiesbaden Skate Park in Hainerberg Housing Aug. 27 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for a Back-to-School Skate and Bike Competition. Registration fee is \$20 per person. Skaters and BMXers are welcome. Call Leslie Gaylord at mil 335-5388 for more information.

### Master shooter

Congratulations to Daniel Boehme, the top marksman at the Ehrenschieb (Honors Shoot) July 19. Boehme had the best score out of the 14 U.S. military community and host nation participants. Call Wiesbaden Outdoor Recreation at civ (0611) 705-5760 for more information on Wiesbaden's Hunting, Fishing and Sport Shooting program.

### Climb a wall

Wiesbaden Outdoor Recreation invites community members to work out on their climbing wall behind the Wiesbaden Fitness Center every Thursday from 5-8 p.m. Rental fee is \$10 including climbing gear, ropes, harness and shoes — or bring your own. Cost is \$5 per hour to climb. Call civ (0611) 705-5760.

### Off-ice hockey officials

The Die Players Liga, the largest non-official hockey league in Germany, seeks off-ice officials. No experience is necessary — just an interest in the sport. The league is run by two U.S. civilians where English is the primary spoken language. Five military hockey teams play in the league. All games are

played on the weekends at the historic Friedrichspark in Mannheim. Call Ken Robinson at civ (0172) 626 3642 or email [info@dpliga.com](mailto:info@dpliga.com).

### Softball Championships

The Installation Management Command-Europe Community Level Softball Championships will be held Aug. 18-21 in Spangdahlem. Call mil 485-6671.

### Young hockey players sought

The Mainzer Jungwoelfe youth hockey team seeks players. The team practices at the Eishalle am Bruchweg and welcomes children in first grade and up. Practices are Tuesdays and Fridays starting Sept. 13. Those without ice skating skills are welcome to join a weekly ice skating clinic — Wednesdays from 4-5 p.m. Visit [www.mainzer-jungwoelfe.de](http://www.mainzer-jungwoelfe.de) or email Richard Marshall at [marshallrf@hotmail.com](mailto:marshallrf@hotmail.com).

### YS coaches clinic

A Coaching Youth Sports Certification Clinic, hosted by Wiesbaden's Child, Youth and School Services Sports and Fitness, will be held Aug. 13, 20 and 27 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Middle School and Teen Youth Center in Hainerberg Housing. The class is free and completion will include membership in the NYSCA, four issues of the "Youth Sports Journal." Volunteer coaches of cheerleading, soccer, cross country, golf, flag and tackle football will learn about their responsibilities when working with children in sports and other topics. Call mil 337-5536, civ (0611) 705-7816 or email [DLUSAGWiesbadenFMWRYSF@eur.army.mil](mailto:DLUSAGWiesbadenFMWRYSF@eur.army.mil) for more information.

## Schoolbits

### School physicals

The Wiesbaden Health Clinic advises parents to book appointments now for their children's annual school physicals. They are also reminded to bring their children's shot records. Call mil 337-6339/6320 or civ (0611) 705-6339/6320 to make an appointment. For those who have had a physical within the last 12 months, parents can drop off paperwork at the primary care desk where forms will be completed and parents will be notified when to pick up the forms (no appointment required). The clinic is open Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (stays open until 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday).

### Scholarship winners

Congratulations to Baumholder's Brian Keller and Wiesbaden's Ashley Charles, recipients of \$1,500 scholarships from the Scholarships for Military Children program. More than 5,000 students applied for the scholarship at Defense Commissary Agency stores worldwide. To see a list of all the scholarship recipients visit [www.militaryscholar.org](http://www.militaryscholar.org). Applicants for the 2011 program must maintain a minimum 4.0 grade point average, participate in voluntary school and community activities, demonstrate leadership qualities and write an essay on how the nation's goal of improving health and wellness can be put into action in local communities. For more information visit the website.



Keller



Charles

### Fall registration

The University of Maryland University College Europe holds registration through Aug. 21 for fall classes starting Aug. 22. UMUC Europe is also offering a new \$150 military book award for all active duty service members and its \$100 Europe book award for spouses and dependents of active duty service members (visit [www.ed.umuc.edu/financial\\_aid](http://www.ed.umuc.edu/financial_aid)). Upcoming field study courses include Expatriate Writers in Venice, and Dublin: A Brief Literary History. Stop by the Education Center or visit [www.ed.umuc.edu](http://www.ed.umuc.edu).

### Baumholder notes

A student orientation for Baumholder Middle High School will be held at 1 p.m. Aug. 26. The first day of school for students is Aug. 29. An open house is slated for Sept. 14 from 5-7 p.m. Call mil 485-7590 for more information.

### Register for classes

Registration for Central Texas College Term I, which runs Aug. 15 through Oct. 7, is underway until Aug. 5. The college offers studies in criminal justice, automotives, early childhood, legal assistance hospitality management and Microsoft certification preparation. Classes are offered at Wiesbaden and online. Contact the Wiesbaden field representative at mil 337-5561 or civ (0611) 705-5561, send email to [wiesbaden@europe.ctcd.edu](mailto:wiesbaden@europe.ctcd.edu) or stop in at the office on Wiesbaden Army Airfield.





Mary Surratt (played by Robin Wright) stands accused of conspiracy in the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln in "The Conspirator," director by Robert Redford.

## At the movies Aug. 4-18

### Baumholder, Wagon Wheel

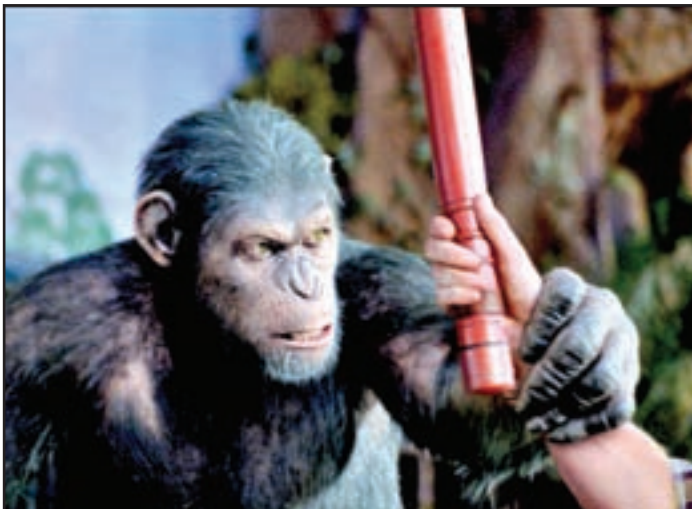
- Aug. 5** — Transformers: Dark Of The Moon (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
**Aug. 6** — Captain America: The First Avenger (PG-13) 4 p.m. Thor (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
**Aug. 7** — Pirates Of The Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (PG-13) 6 p.m.  
**Aug. 12** — Horrible Bosses (R) 7 p.m.  
**Aug. 13** — The Conspirator (PG-13) 4 p.m. Crazy, Stupid, Love (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
**Aug. 14** — Judy Moody And The Not So Bummer Summer (PG) 7 p.m.

### Wiesbaden, Taunus

- Aug. 4** — Thor (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
**Aug. 5** — Crazy, Stupid, Love (PG-13) 7 p.m. The Conspirator (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.  
**Aug. 6** — Hoodwinked Too! Hood Vs. Evil (PG) 4 p.m. Crazy, Stupid, Love (PG-13) 7 p.m. Pirates Of The Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.  
**Aug. 7** — Rio (G) 4 p.m. Crazy, Stupid, Love

(PG-13) 7 p.m.

- Aug. 8** — Crazy, Stupid, Love (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
**Aug. 9** — The Conspirator (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
**Aug. 10** — Pirates Of The Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
**Aug. 11** — Pirates Of The Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
**Aug. 12** — Rise Of The Planet Of The Apes (PG-13) 7 p.m. Bridesmaids (R) 9:30 p.m.  
**Aug. 13** — Kung Fu Panda 2 (PG) 4 p.m. Rise Of The Planet Of The Apes (PG-13) 7 p.m. The Conspirator (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.  
**Aug. 14** — Judy Moody And The Not So Bummer Summer (PG) 4 p.m. Rise Of The Planet Of The Apes (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
**Aug. 15** — Rise Of The Planet Of The Apes (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
**Aug. 16** — Pirates Of The Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (PG-13) 7 p.m.  
**Aug. 17** — Bridesmaids (R) 7 p.m.  
**Aug. 18** — Thor (PG-13) 7 p.m.



Chris Evans plays a comic book superhero in "Captain America: The First Avenger." Photo left: The origins of the intelligent apes are traced in "Rise of the Planet of the Apes."

## Movie plots

### Rise Of The Planet Of The Apes (PG-13) —

This new take on the Planet of the Apes saga traces the origins of the story line. Set in present-day San Francisco, the film is a reality-based cautionary tale, a science fiction/science fact blend, where experiments with genetic engineering lead to the development of intelligence in apes and the onset of a war for supremacy. Stars James Franco and Andy Serkis.

### Crazy, Stupid, Love (PG-13) —

At 40-something, straight-laced Cal Weaver (Steve Carell) is living the dream — good job, nice house, great kids and marriage to his high school sweetheart. But when Cal learns his wife, Emily (Julianne Moore), has cheated on him and wants a divorce, his "perfect" life quickly unravels. Worse, in today's single world, Cal, who hasn't dated in decades. Now spending his free evenings sulking alone at a local bar, the hapless Cal is taken on as wingman and protege to handsome, 30-something player Jacob Palmer (Ryan Gosling). In an effort to help Cal get over his wife and start living his life, Jacob opens Cal's eyes to the many options before him.

### The Conspirator (PG-13) —

Against the turbulent backdrop of post-Civil War Washington, rookie lawyer Frederick Aiken (James McAvoy) reluctantly agrees to defend Mary Surratt (Robin Wright) — the lone woman charged as a co-conspirator in the assassination trial of Abraham Lincoln. When his colleagues, friends and true love begin to desert him, Aiken must rely on Mary's spirited daughter Anna (Evan Rachel Wood) to help piece together the events leading up to the assassination. Aiken quickly realizes Mary may be innocent and that she is being used as bait in order to capture the only conspirator to have escaped the massive manhunt: her own son, John.

### Horrible Bosses (R) —

For Nick (Jason Bateman), Kurt (Jason Sudeikis) and Dale (Charlie Day), the only thing that would make the daily grind more tolerable would be to grind their intolerable bosses (Kevin Spacey, Colin Farrell, Jennifer Aniston) into dust. Quitting is not an option, so, with the benefit of a few-too-many drinks and some dubious advice from a hustling ex-con (Jamie Foxx), the three friends devise a convoluted and seemingly foolproof plan to rid themselves of their respective employers ... permanently. There's only one problem: even the best laid plans are only as foolproof as the brains behind them.

### Captain America: The First Avenger (PG-13) —

After being deemed unfit for military service, Steve Rogers volunteers for a top secret research project that turns him into Captain America, a superhero dedicated to defending America's ideals. Stars Chris Evans and Sebastian Stan.



# One nation, many beers - Prost!

Beer has always been and will always be a major topic for us Germans. Last year, 98.3 million hectoliters of beer were consumed — an average of 109.6 liters per person.

**Story and photos by  
Nicole Karsch-Meibom**  
Contributing writer

Beer unites and at the same time divides the nation. The one question you will get a unanimous reply from most Germans is “Whose beer is best?” “Ours,” they will say. And funny enough, quite a few foreigners agree — apart from some Belgians and Australians perhaps. On the other hand, if you dig into the question “Which German beer is best?” there you are. The nation lapses back into pre-federal times, it’s South against North, East against West.

In fact, some aficionados would even say: Tell me what you drink and I’ll tell you who you are! Now, let’s find out why German beer has such a good reputation. International brew master Guido Thomas took care of beer in Vail, Colo.,

and even brewed for His Royal Highness, the Prince of Bavaria. “First of all,” Mr. Thomas said, “the brewing business started early here in Germany.”

In the year 766, an official document confirms the delivery of beer to a monastery in Geisingen.

“We owe it to hungry monks that beer was invented,” Mr. Thomas said. “As alcohol was forbidden during Lent season, they developed what they called ‘liquid food’ — a term still used in Bavaria.

Therefore, monasteries were the earliest producers of beer, predominantly in the south of Germany.” Some names of these breweries have still remained until now, like Paulaner or Franziskaner. Soon, the “juice of the barley” became so popular that production sites developed all over the country. But to make sure that what’s called beer really is beer,

the Bavarian duke Wilhelm IV signed a law in 1516 that is still more or less valid today in Germany. It’s the so-called “Reinheitsgebot,” or the law of purity, which states that only water, hops and barley may be used for brewing.

By the way, the “Gerstensaft,” or malt juice, was such an emotional topic that in 1888, after a small price increase, angry crowds literally took several Munich pubs apart, an event called the “Salvator-Battle.”

It is not surprising to find that Salvator happens to be a strong beer, because of its high percentage of alcohol.

Coming back to the quality question. Experts claim it is this law of purity that makes German beer so special.

“It really boils down to the fact that we use no additives, no other ingredients and no chemical tricks,” said Mr. Thomas, who currently takes care of the quality of the Hochdorfer Kronen brewery.

So much for an answer that unites us Germans. But which beer should you drink?

Only to wine drinkers is beer just beer. Just talking about the different sorts of beer could fill a book. There are more than 1,300 breweries in Germany, likewise innumerable types and variations of beer. Berliner Weiße is a sour wheat beer from the German capital Berlin that’s usually flavoured with raspberry syrup that often comes with a straw.

The Pilsner on the contrary is found everywhere and comes straight from the bottle. Gose is from the east of Germany and calls for caraway or red currants juice.

Kölsch is exclusively brewed



*Because of the law on purity, only these natural ingredients can go into making proper German beer.*

in Cologne and served in small slim 0.2-liter glasses — absolutely frowned upon by the lovers of South German wheat beer that needs to be drunk from a tall 0.5-liter glass.

Rauchbeer — a smoked beer — is a speciality of Bamberg in Frankonia and it goes on with the innumerable regional specialties like Bockbeer, Eisbock or Roggenbier, to name a few.

It’s a science indeed but also a matter of local pride.

The Bavarians call themselves the beer people, and there would be no Oktoberfest without Munich breweries like Paulaner or Hacker-Pschorr. Having a wheat beer in a summertime beer garden combines the love of tradition with the joy of living. Then again, even in Frankonia — a region that technically belongs to Bavaria though you should never call them Bavarians — people pride themselves in having more breweries per inhabitants than any other region of Germany. Their strong Bockbier always

makes a lasting impression on visitors.

To enjoy nothing but a Kölsch is a patriotic duty for those from Cologne, whereas up in the northern regions it’s the Flensburger Pils, for example, with its unique “plop” noise when opened that stands for a relaxed personality.

Having mentioned just a few, it becomes obvious that the local beer represents the local folks, which is why there’s no real winner.

It’s all up to your own taste. Find out for yourself and have a nice Saturday, which is the Day of German Beer. Prost!

For a guided tour of a brewery call 06302 912-144 or e-mail [heinze@bischoff-bier.de](mailto:heinze@bischoff-bier.de). The tour takes approximately 1 hour and is followed by another hour of beer tasting.

Tours take place at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Monday through Thursdays at the Privatbrauerei Bischoff, An den Hopfengärten 6, 67722 Winnweiler.



*Brew master Guido Thomas, from the Hochdorf Kronenbrauerei, tests the gravity of the liquid to make sure it becomes proper beer.*





# Discover the hidden gems of Idar-Oberstein

**Story and photos by A.L. Shaff**  
*Contributing writer*

Long ago, the villages of Idar and Oberstein fused into one gem of a city that became famous around the world for producing masterpieces from the raw ores.

As explorers found ever-more fascinating gemstones in Africa, the Americas, and even Asia, Idar-Oberstein turned itself from mining to importing then cutting and finishing the stones into high-quality jewelry and artifacts.

Two museums, the German Gem Museum in Idar and the Oberstein Museum in the partner town, give visitors fascinating looks at the past and the beautiful finished products of the master crafts-men who toiled in almost unbearable conditions. But the city provides far more than museums and jewelry.

Cut deep into a sheer cliff, the “Felsenkirche,” or Church in the Rock, requires a short walk up the steps from the town square that lead to a tiny chapel built upon a legend.

Folklore tells of two brothers who loved the same princess, one openly and the other in secrecy.

When the older lover went off the fight in battles, his brother declared his affections for the princess and they married.

When the warring brother came home and discovered the treachery, he slew his kin in a rage. Then, repentant for his sin, he vowed to build a church in the brother’s memory.

Once the church was finished, a small spring began to bubble up in the middle of the floor, and it still runs today.

High over the city stands Burg Oberstein, reachable by many steps that pass the tiny church or by car along a circuitous road outside the town.

Though much of the castle was destroyed by fire in 1855, the greater part still stands with a weapons hall, a large culture hall, the Lion’s Cellar, a small gallery room and the entire inner courtyard.

Most of these rooms can be rented out for special affairs. Burg Oberstein also hosts a thriving summer theater program and a renowned romantic Christmas market. Entrance to the fortress is free but donations are welcome.

From 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. May 27 to

29, the town will hold “Mineral World Idar-Oberstein” for traders and collectors to display their treasures in the city center and walking passage.

The most famous food offering associated with the Idar-Oberstein area is Speisbraten, a dish made typically with marinated pork or beef roasted on spike over beefwood flames and served with grated white radish salad and potatoes.

The open secret of marinating Spiesbraten involves just the right amount of chopped onion and special herbs.

The old town square features several excellent restaurants that offer Spiesbraten or other German varieties at outdoor venues.

Idar-Oberstein once was a part of the Baumholder military community with a storage base about 10 miles away and an artillery unit kaserne that closed in 2008.

A perfect day trip, Idar-Oberstein offers good food, old Germany atmosphere, a fortress on a hill, and two museums full of history and beauty surrounding jewels and gems.

The GPS setting is Idar-Oberstein 55743, which is only 46 miles from Kaiserslautern up autobahn A62.

*PHOTOS CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:*

*Housed in a former mansion of a gem company owner, The German Gem Museum in Idar offers three floors of brilliantly crafted gem artifacts, as well as history of the Idar-Oberstein mining industry. From raw materials to finished masterpieces, the museum gives life to the labors of the miners who worked deep below the Earth hundreds of years ago.*

*Oberstein dominates the twin towns and the Idar-Oberstein Valley. To reach the ruins of the former fortress, a visitor must climb a long stretch of steps from Oberstein village then pass the Church in the Cliff. But the view allows a grand panorama of both towns and the surrounding area.*

*A mural of German gem workers in the Idar-Oberstein Museum shows how workers lay on their stomachs while working the machinery that polished raw rock into gems. Other displays show how miners labored underground on their hands and knees or stooped in narrow wet tunnels to extract tons of ore that could relinquish a few ounces of workable gem stones.*

*Almost impossible to imagine today, men once sprawled stomach down on these wooden work stations and held stones out to the spinning grinders in front of them. Using authentic machinery of the time, Idar-Oberstein’s working model of a gem polisher’s work place spins with pulleys and flows with water as it did when the gem trade was at its height over a century and a half ago.*







# Youth Activities

Wiesbaden: Point your children in the right direction ... and when they're older they won't be lost!

## 'Boxy wonders'

Wiesbaden's Child Youth and School programs get creative over the summer. The School Age Center on Wiesbaden has all of their "Boxy Wonders" on display.



Courtesy photo

Logan Garcia holds up "Robot Boy."



Courtesy photo

Hunter Barker, Amare Francois (in window) and Marquis Mcfadden present their rocket ship.



Courtesy photo

Sera Uko, Camai Woods and Kathleen Keen pose with their ice cream stand.



Courtesy photo

## (Pandamania) God is Wild About You

Several hundred participants and dozens of community volunteers take part in the U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Chapel's Vacation Bible School. VBS featured daily topics including: God Made Me, God Listens to Me, God Loves Me No Matter What, God Gives Good Gifts and God Watches Over Me. **LEFT:** Owen Anderson, Juliana Ray and Isaac Mitchell join others as VBS kids celebrate God's love. **RIGHT:** Cameron Andrews, Gabi Rigdon, Cameron Troyer, Katie Dunphy and Lena Berry enjoy an activity that demonstrate how amazing it is that God is able to listen to everyone at the same time.



Courtesy photo



## Baumholder youth claim KMC Junior Baseball Championship

Baumholder's Junior Boys Baseball Team won the 2011 Kaiserslautern Military Community Championship June 16. The team, led by coach Omar Aponte and Aaron Buhrer, defeated a team from Vogelweh to hoist the trophy. "Our boys' hard work and sweat over the course of the season rightfully earned them their championship. Congratulations on a job well done," said Daniel Washington, sports and fitness director.



Baumholder's junior baseball team proudly display their championship trophy.



Zach Buhrer connects during the 2011 Junior Baseball Championships.



Parents and supporters of the junior baseball team take in the action during the championship playoff.



Members of the Baumholder junior baseball team pause for a photo before the game.

Baumholder "Home of Champions"

# Youth Activities







## PEEK-A-BOO! I SEE YOU

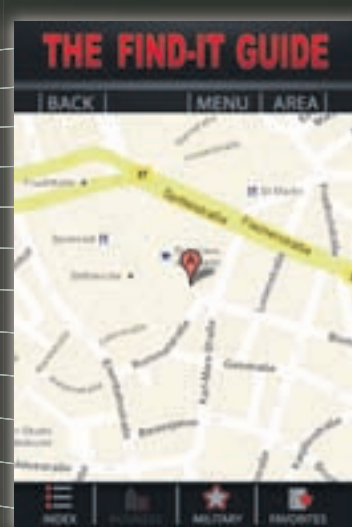
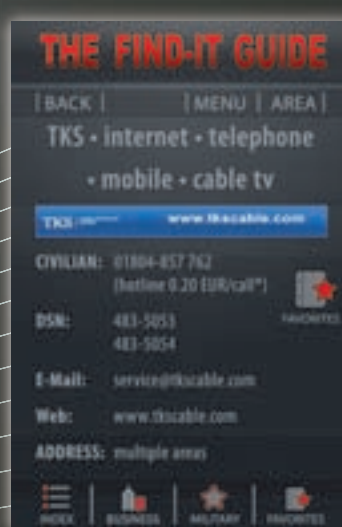
### Let us put your baby in the *Herald Union*

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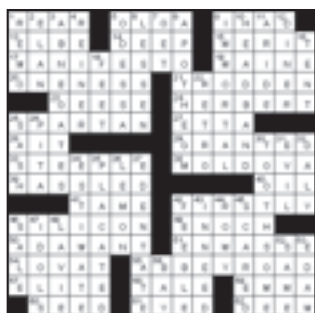
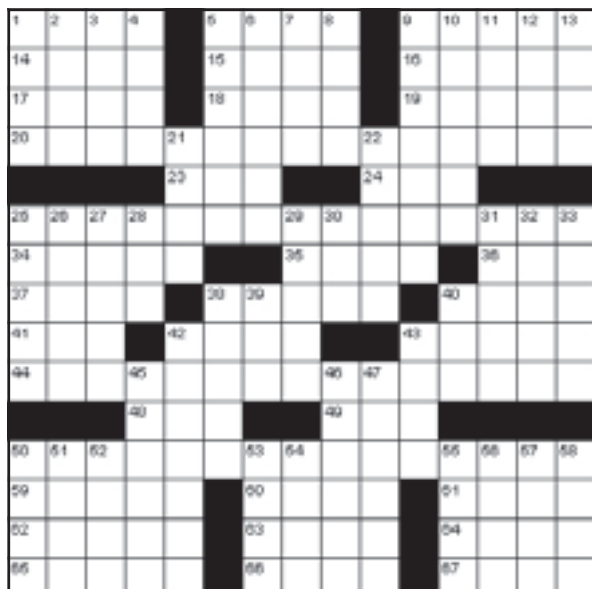
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## Crossword Puzzle



This is the solution  
to the crossword  
puzzle from July 21!

Courtesy of thinks.com

**DOWN**

1. Hurry
2. Killer whale
3. Smell
4. Speechless
5. Brawl
6. Conductor Antal
7. Eins, zwei, \_\_\_\_
8. Witnessed
9. Remark of the unimpressed
10. More unsightly
11. Happy
12. No longer here
13. Skywalker mentor
21. Portend
22. Castilian hero
25. Chilled meat garnish
26. Slow mover
27. Actress Shire
28. Small guitar
29. Drugbusters
30. \_\_\_\_ Lanka
31. Island west of Maui
32. Stay home for supper
33. Object
38. Beats
39. Employ
40. Fully
42. Expanded
43. South Pacific boat
45. Experience again
46. Big-beaked bird
47. Italian seaport on the Adriatic
50. Biblical miracle site
51. Arabian Peninsula country
52. Passing notice?
53. Furthermore
54. Chanel of fashion
55. Flesh
56. "Stand \_\_\_\_"

57. Land of leprechauns
58. Cleave

**ACROSS**

1. Capacity
5. Tots
9. Light carriage
14. Language of Pakistan
15. Fairway warning
16. Domed home
17. Dundee denizen
18. Off the hook
19. Hormone producer
20. Preposterous notion
23. Meal starter?
24. Confederate commander
25. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle title
34. Weave in and out
35. Seed case
36. Sigh of contentment
37. Not very bright
38. Cheaply sensational
40. "Nay!" sayer
41. Trio for Tiberius
42. Record
43. Unadorned
44. Jodie Foster role
48. Antlered animal
49. "Puppet \_\_\_\_ String"  
(1965 Elvis song)
50. Composed
59. Scope
60. Bananas
61. Fictional Jane
62. Ingenuous
63. Examine closely
64. Exiled Ugandan
65. Paid to hold hands?
66. Mrs Chaplin
67. Care for

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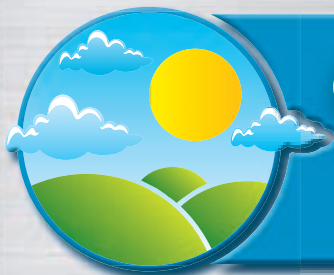
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**Luxurious Country Style** house for rent near Wiesbaden, 260 sqm, 5 bedrooms, 3 bath, pool, sauna, open fire place, sunroom, €2995,00 per month plus utilities, no realtor fee, call Dieter at 06122-9183954 or mandalka@gmx.de

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**Neuhemsbach (Sembach). Cosy** house 2bdm, den, changing-room, bathrm 1-1/2, large living-diningrm, open-firepl. newer BIK, terrace, yard, garage and offrd park. Must see €200000 06303800913 / jean.powell@gmx.de

## AUTOS

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**1995 BMW 318i** 2dr Coupe 5speed, A/C, sunroof, Car in good shape, only driven 6 months, 175,987 KM. Asking \$2800/O.B.O. 063156000103 / singa4life76@yahoo.com

**1995 VW Golf Savoy** (European specs). Manual 5-speed, pwr windows/locks, alarm, A/C, CD player, all season tires. Excellent condition, great on gas! \$2800 0160-292-6426

**1996 GMC Sierra** 170000 miles, 2wd, A/C, cruise control, power windows/locks, alarm system, new rear end, lower/upper rad hose, rotors, bearings, brakes etc \$4500 067839018464 / fearless83@hotmail.com

**1996 Opel Omega B**, automatic, leather heated seats, AC, sun roof, huge trunk, interior in really good condition. 208, xxx KM. \$3600 bmg010@yahoo.com

**4 summer tires** fitting 3 series BMW for sale. Price negotiable. Pick up in Waldmohr. \$ 0178 34 89 177

**1999 Mercedes E200 Classic**, Auto, Air, CD, PS, ABS, Elec windows, Auto sense wiper, Fog lights, Trailer hitch; Great car, smooth ride! Wiesbaden. \$4750; 06198-57-08-19

**2000 Cadillac Seville** STSpower everything, Black Leather int., Bose 7.1 surround sound, great car. NADA value \$5725 call 01747272278 or 063156001103 \$4500

**2001 Citroen Saxo**, German TÜV in 11/12, red, 3 doors, electric windows, brandnew summer tires, wintertires, great on gas €1200; 0176-32283670 or 06386-999878, julie674@gmx.de

**2007 Pacific Blue HD Sportster** w/tachometer, engine guards, saddle bags, & windshield, 9500 miles located in Hochspeyer. Email for more info \$6500 OBO \$6500 njhang@hotmail.com

**2010, X5, 35d**, Grey, Practically new, 9500 miles. Fully loaded, Tobacco leather interior, Bluetooth, Ipad, 3rd Row Seat, Sunroof, 7 PAX, No GPS \$46000 mark.oppel@gmail.com

**BMW 318 E35** Touring station wagon, 188tkm, 120 PS, green metallic, A/C, heated seats in the front, CD Radio, built 1996, great condition from private €3000 uli.strietzal@web.de

**BMW 318i (E46)**, 173000km, Year: 2003, 143PS, black, 5gears, AC, el. windows / mirror / glass sun roof, routing syst, 16" Alu rims, call: 0179-9100405 (Thomas) €7900 0179-9100405/tklenhard@t-online.de

**BMW 320 IA** 110KW / 150HP Sport / Coupe, sport seats, power steering, air conditioning, power mirror, front airbag, power sunroof, power windows. \$2600 015778395052 ali\_haidar\_29@hotmail.de

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## AUTOS

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**Diesel, Practically new,** 8500 miles. Fully loaded, Tobacco leather interior, Bluetooth, Ipad, 3rd Row Seat, 7 passenger, No builtin GPS \$48000 mark.oppel@gmail.com

**Golf III 4 door year 1996** first owner, non smoking vehicle no accident rust free power steering climate control power windows Manual Gearbox rust free \$2100 015778395052 ali\_haidar\_29@hotmail.de

## MOTORCYCLES

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**2006 Harley Davidson Nighttrain** is looking for a new good home because i have no time to ride it. Garage kept, 1450 cc, 995 miles, vivid black chrome \$11500 06371-495544 / bullockd25@yahoo.com

**Almost new HD Street Glide,** pearl silver, AM/FM/CD/Aux, ABS, Cruise Control, 1900 Miles, bought in March from ENC. Compare to 2011 or 2012 price! \$16500 jaccsand@gmail.com

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Looking for American churches** who would like to host a free concert of the Continental Singers in August! Available dates are 16th, 17th, and 26th. Tim @ tmaccolorado1@yahoo.com/015126064434

## FOR SALE -- MISC

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**220-110 Transformers (300 VA)** two outlet Tacima / (100 VA)one outlet Tacima / (1000 VA) Box style Tramag Transformers in like new condition - \$ 0170-8895583 / who\_what\_wkiii@yahoo.com

**53 inch panasonic** projection monitor HDTV w/universal remote. This is a floor model TV 120V AC. PCS sale! \$150 0160-292-6426

**6 sand coloured** fake leather dining chairs in great condition. €120 christiankunuz23@web.de

**AFN / PowerVu Receiver** - American forces Network HI - I am looking for a PowerVu receiver with valid subscription ptech@gmx.co.uk or icq 430974952

**Are you a Disney fan?** Stamp Collector? I have what you're looking for. All collections have original certificates of authenticity \$100 Call: 0160-96746539 Annehrhardt01@aol.com

**Artley, Silver Flute \$25** Call: 0160-96746539 Annehrhardt01@aol.com

**Bedroom set, six piece.** Mission style solid American Oak, new. Queen size (U.S. size) bed, Two dressers, one man's, one women's both with dove tailed drawers. Mirror. Two night stands, dovetailed drawers. Euro 1,650.00 delivered or 1,500 pick up. retired Military. Pieces can be sold separately. More pictures available via e-mail. edwin.duke@t-online.de ph 01743304418

**Big tents, 2,** white, excellent condition, each: 114ft. length, 59ft., width, 28ft. high, for sports or shows or exhibitions, made in 1993 - like new 0152-25194313 (David Frank)

**Coffee Mill Wood** for sale. sweilacher@t-online.de €10

**Collectors Cup and Plant** from Kunst Kronach Germany for sale. sweilacher@t-online.de €12

**Darmstadt PCS Sale:** Belgian living room set, Italian dining room set, bedroom sets, multiple gym equipment, microwave, etc. 06155-868093 or 0151-5125-3738 or wesley\_man@yahoo.com

**German AEG washer + Constructa** dryer. Both items are in good condition. Pick up in Waldmohr. Pictures can be mailed upon request. Can be sold separately. 0178 34 89 177

**German Emotions Pictures.** Special photographs on linen. Self photographed. Size 20 x 20 cm. € 15 per picture. Suitable for children. Contain no solvent. €15 sweilacher@t-online.de

**Kinect Sensor for Xbox 360** Brand New without game. - Located @ WAFF \$55 01708895583

**Make an offer, 63" Toshiba Rear** Projection TV model 51H84C, 110V, in storage not being used \$ 06381-9205650

**Old Plate from Villeroy & Boch** Germany, 21cm, for sale. sweilacher@t-online.de €10

**New jars of Kinky Curly Curling** Custard, 16 oz, 25 euros. I also have an 8 oz. jar for 15 euros. € classicer48@yahoo.com or 01726250663

**OBO, Co-sleeper Bassinett** \$100, Glider Rocker w/ ottoman \$50, Graco Pack n' Play \$20, Moses Basket Bassinett \$50 \$ 06381-9205650

**OBO, Ikea Dining** rm tbl w/ 2 leafs, 5 matching chairs. Ikea single wood frame bed and mattress barely used \$100 OBO. Ikea wood storage unit \$100 OBO \$200 06381-9205650

**OBO, Matching Wood Qn** sz bdrm set, incl hdbdr, ftbrd, rails, end tbl, armoire w/ 3 drawers and 6 drawer chest. Mattress and box-spring not incl. \$500 06381-9205650

**PCSing end of the month!** Portable AC unit, new 265€ - w/receipt & warranty, external computer monitor (Viewsonic VP2030b) 20" bought in 2009, Yamaha stereo/home theater receiver (Yamaha RX-V550), 5 surround sound speakers & subwoofer for Yamaha (NS-SP3800) w/all cables etc., reasonable prices! E-Mail: joshcowboy1@yahoo.com

**PCSing end of the month:** Baby crib w/mattress (Ikea Hensvik in white), baby closet w/changing station (Ikea Hensvik), Clothes Bureau (Ikea Hensvik) in medium-brown, dining table (Ikea Bjursta) dark brown expandable 8-10pers., bench for dining table (Ikea Bjursta) dark brown, portable kitchen cutting table/shelving unit (Ikea Bekvam) on rolls w/storage for pots and pans etc., kitchen or dining rm table light brown, reasonable prices E-Mail: joshcowboy1@yahoo.com

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**PCSing end of the month:** Small fridge w/freezer, mini-camcorder (Canon Optura 600) w/bag - ideal for video recording and still photos, Denon stereo / Home theater receiver, 2 speakers for Denon receiver, baby gate, European/American power transformers, 4 tall fans, microwave, blender, popcorn maker, coffee presses (french presses), sealed coffee containers, assorted cooking items & dishware, Assorted winter coats & clothing items, and many many more items! E-Mail: joshcowboy1@yahoo.com

**USA and CSA documents,** coins of Germany and China, private collection, for sale piece by piece. Call between 4-7pm 0152-25194313 (David Frank)

**Whirlpool washer and dryer** 250 Each. Only used 6 months. PCSing and must sell. Will consider all offers. Have connections and vent hose. Can deliver. \$250 Emily: 0711 729 4264 or Edrick 0152 03983000

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**AFN / PowerVu Receiver** - American forces Network HI - I am looking for a PowerVu receiver with valid subscription ptech@gmx.co.uk or icq 430974952

**I am looking** for 2 twin and 1 queen size mattress sets. Willing to pay if they are in good condition and you can deliver. skimomma09@yahoo.com

**I am looking** for a girl partnerstunt-Cheerleading also for beginners. Maybe we start on championships. info@magic-xtreme.de (City: Saarbrücken) 01636016619

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